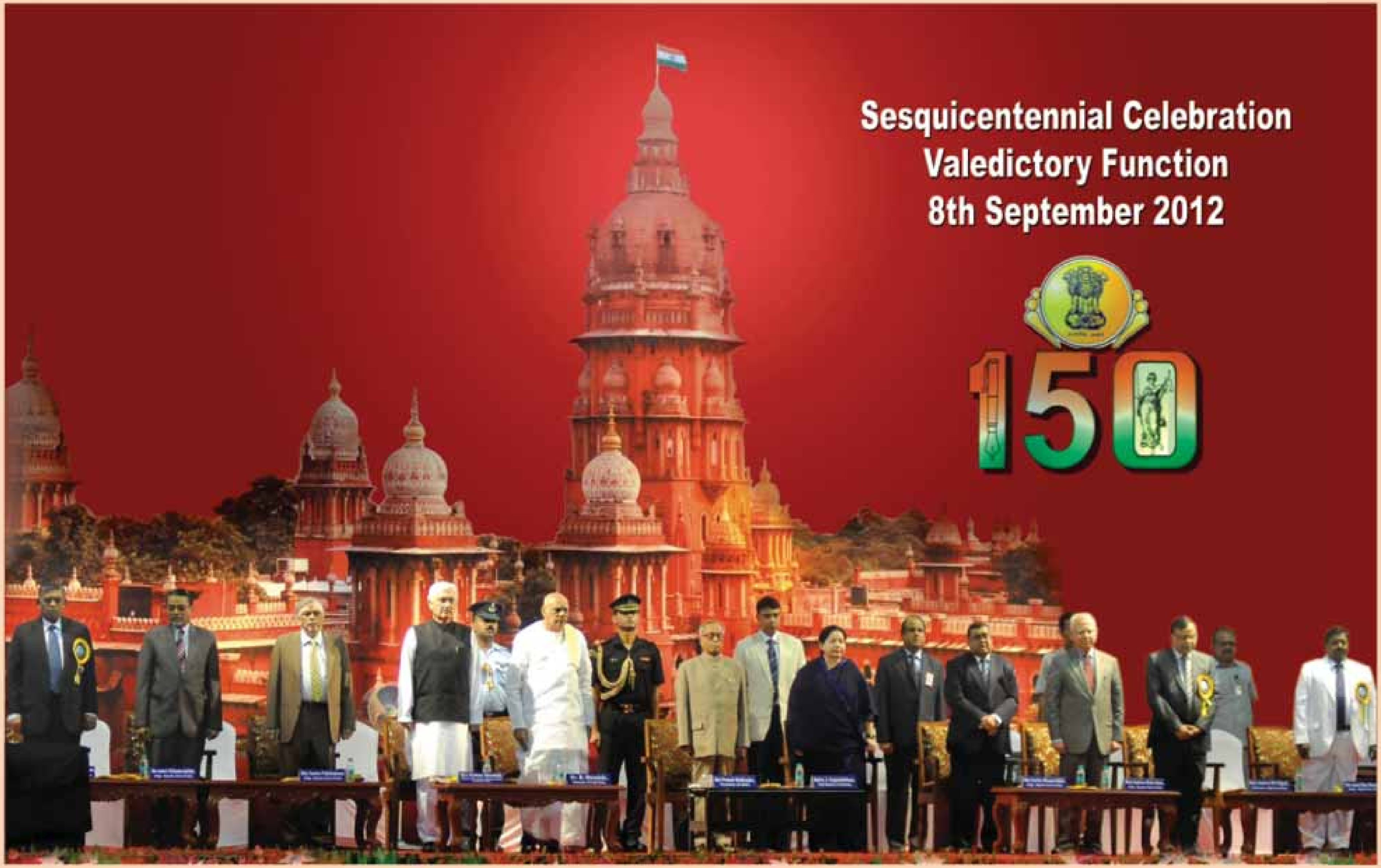
Tamil Arasu

Publication of Information & Public Relations Department

September - 2012
Rs. 30/-



The credit of dispensing the wealth of education to students goes to the Teachers

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** on Teacher's Day (English Translation)

Dr.S. Radhakrishnan was born in Tamil Nadu and worked as a teacher and rose, by his sheer intellectual process and his integrity to occupy the Country's highest post of Presidency. We feel happy to celebrate his birthday as 'Teacher's Day' on September 5th, every year.

"Learning alone is imperishable wealth; all other things are not real wealth".

As poet-saint Thiruvalluvar has stated, learning is a wealth which is everlasting. No other wealth is real wealth. If at all there is a tool capable of destroying ignorance and poverty, it is education. The credit of dispensing the wealth of education to students, it is no exaggeration to say, goes to the teaching fraternity.

Dr. S.Radhakrishnan realised that students could get the best education and contribute to social development if only teachers showered on them, next to their own parents, love and affection and guided them. He practised what he felt and brought glory to the teaching profession. My great desire is that teachers should follow his footsteps and sow great ideals and social consciousness in the minds of students and carry out their educational tasks.

For the student community to become highly learned and lead a glorious life, it is the foremost duty of teachers to take advantage of the countless schemes implemented by the Government headed by your beloved sister and turn out good students. I convey my 'Teacher's Day' greetings to the teachers who are working round the clock for a great future for the student community. ❖

Tamil Arasu

Publication of Information &
Public Relations Department
Thiruvalluvar Year - 2043
September 2012
Rs.20/-

"Judges and Lawyers from Tamil Nadu are renowned for their erudition and scholarship. Several constitutional amendments and illustrious judgements stemmed from this bank of legal acumen. It should be our endeavour to preserve this distinction."

Selvi J Jayalalithaa
- Hon'ble Chief Minister

Editor and Publisher
J. Kumaragurubaran, IAS
Director of Information and
Public Relations

Administrative Editor
D. R. Jayashree
Deputy Director (Publications)

Joint Editor
K. Shanmuga Sundaram
Assistant Director

Associate Editors
S. Jayalalitha
R. Rajasekaran
A. Maheswari

Assistant Editor
S. Kamala

Reporters
D. Periyar Socrates
J. Jayasimhan

Senior Artist
R. Samundeeswari

Journal Assistant
A. Mathan

Layout Artist
R. Balaji

Designed by
G. Murali

In this issue....

- Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister at a Government function held at Srirangam on 13.9.2012 (English Translation)................................ 03
- Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the Sesquicentennial Valedictory function of Madras High Court on 8.9.2012.................................... 14
- Rs. 53.53 crores allotted for new strategies in Samba cultivation to protect farmer's welfare (Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 24.8.2012 – English Translation)............................... 29
- Parents' income ceiling doubled for educational assistance for Adi dravidar and Tribal students for higher education................................ 42
- Steps to generate power expeditiously in the new power projects 46
- New buildings for 268 Government High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools at a cost of Rs. 169.44 crores 52
- Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes petrol driven scooters fitted with extra wheels to the differently abled students 54
- Fine variety rice sold at cost price in Fair Price Shops (Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 12.9.2012 – English Translation)............................... 68

Designed & Printed at :
Tamil Arasu Press
Directorate of Stationery &
Printing premises,
110, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002.
Tel : 28520407/ 28520408
Fax : 28520408
E-mail : tamilarasu@tn.gov.in

I – Wrapper

Sesquicentennial Valedictory function of Madras High Court (8.9.2012)

II – Wrapper

His Excellency the Governor hosted a tea party to His Excellency the President of India at Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 8.9.2012. The Hon'ble Chief Minister participated.

Fulfillment of the promises made by me is my holy duty and gratitude

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** at a Government function held at Srirangam Legislative Constituency, Tiruchirapalli District on 13.9.2012 (English Translation)

Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Sports & Youth Welfare and Beloved Brother, Thiru. N.R. Sivapathy, Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments and Beloved Brother Thiru. M.S.M. Anandan, Hon'ble Ministers, Tiruchirapalli District Collector Tmt. Jayashree Muralidharan who delivered the welcome address, Tiruchirapalli District Revenue Officer Thiru Thiyagarajan who is to propose a vote of thanks, Respected Elders, Ladies my veritable Gods who sustain me and my dear siblings who are Puratchi Thalaivar MGR's Blood unto Blood and dearer to me than my own life,

At the outset I offer my respects with love to you all.

In the historic Tiruchirapalli District, I am happy to participate in this function held in my constituency of Srirangam which is stroked by the waters of Cauvery and which is one of the 'Divya Desams', having the Sri Ranganathaswamy temple with the biggest Rajagopuram.

I am very happy to speak to you after declaring open the works that were undertaken and completed at a cost of Rs.27,13,88,000/-, after laying the foundation for new works to be executed at a cost of Rs. 82,63,24,000/- and after distributing welfare assistance worth Rs. 50,62,15,537 to 34,000 beneficiaries. The schemes and assistance together came to Rs. 160,39,27,537/-.

Your faces clearly reflect the affection, love and confidence you have in me and in my Government.

This is the 3rd Government function held in Srirangam. Though I belong to all constituencies, this is my own constituency. Though I rule from Fort St. George, all my thoughts revolve around Rock Fort.

It is you, who put me on the throne. Redeeming my promises to you, I feel, is my sacred duty and an expression of my gratitude. I have never failed to carryout the expectations of the poor and downtrodden. That is why I met you in person, first on 19.6.2011 and second time on 13.2.2012 and executed schemes and distributed assistance worth Rs. 430 crores totally.

Now, for the third time I am meeting you here and am about to launch schemes and disburse assistance worth Rs. 160 crores.

I would like to point out on this occasion, some of the works undertaken for people after I assumed office in 2011 with your great support for a third term.

Several schemes like distribution of rice at no cost, over and above the marriage assistance gold for 'Thali' to the poor and downtrodden women, doubling the marriage assistance for women degree/diploma holders, along with gold for 'Thali', Chief Minister's, 'farmers protection plan' to remove the distress of farmers, the Chief Minister's Medical Insurance Scheme to provide high quality treatment to the poor and the downtrodden, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance scheme for protecting the Mother and infant, distribution of mixies, grinders and fans at no cost, distribution of milch cows and goats to the poor and downtrodden and distribution of green houses, are being implemented.

Also, free education isgiventoall.Incentives are given to students in

the 10th, 11th and 12th classes so as to prevent the phenomenon of drop-outs in the high and higher secondary schools. Four school uniforms, footwear, school bag, colour pencils, geometry box, atlas, text books and note books are all given at no cost. Higher secondary and college students are given lap-tops. Bi-cycles are given to higher secondary and ITI students. To encourage higher education 22 new Arts and Science affiliated Colleges have been started. Rs. 100 crores have been allotted to improve infrastructure facilities in Government Arts and Science Colleges and Affiliated Arts and Science Colleges. An engineering college affiliated to Anna University has been started at Bodinayakanur in Theni District. Steps are taken to start 2 more Government Engineering Colleges, 10 Polytechnics and 2 Veterinary Medical Colleges in Dharmapuri and Thanjavur Districts.

Besides these, I have created more than 1,70,000 employment opportunities in Government and in Government establishments and thereby laid a base for the younger generation.

Above all a ‘Vision 2023’ has been prepared for Tamil Nadu with the goals of making the State foremost in India, creating excellent infrastructure in all sectors, making Tamil Nadu the premier State as per human development indices and achieve great progress in agricultural and industrial sectors.

Orders have been issued to extend the welfare benefits now enjoyed by the people of the State, to Sri Lankan Tamils also, living in the camps. They have been complied with.

I boldly passed a resolution in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly that Indian Government should force the United Nations to declare as 'war criminals' those who had committed war crimes against the innocent Sri Lankan Tamils; that the Central Government should take steps with other countries to impose an economic blockade against Sri Lankan Government till the locally displaced Tamils now living in Sri Lankan camps returned to their native places and led a dignified-life on par with the Sinhalese and till the Tamils, there, obtained all citizenship rights. I also urged that the Central Government should desist from giving training to Sri Lankan army personnel anywhere in India, including Tamil Nadu. Since justice is not still meted out to Sri Lankan Tamils, and by way of showing Tamil Nadu's feelings and reservations I prevented Sri Lankan sports personnel, from getting trained in Tamil Nadu. These actions of my Government have received encomiums not only from the people of Tamil Nadu, but from Tamils all over the world. However, my Government is firm that there should be no hindrance to tourists and pilgrims from Sri Lanka visiting Tamil Nadu.

But one, who has lost his self-respect due to his own selfishness and was responsible for the annihilation of Tamil race in Sri Lanka, is enacting a drama as if he is championing the cause of Sri Lankan Tamils.

When there was a genocide of Tamils in Sri Lanka, the Central Government acted in support of the Sri Lankan Government and its army. While the Sri Lankan Navy continues to attack the fishermen from Tamil Nadu with a view of preventing them from fishing in their traditional areas, the Central Government has not opposed it strongly. The person who could not question the Centre on this, has altered the very title of the meeting itself, though it was ostensibly convened for the cause of Sri Lankan Tamils. The person who safeguards the dignity of the Tamils in this way, is the one who criticises the actions of my Government that protects the welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils.

For a Tamilian, self-respect is the be-all and end-all. I would like to share with you one such episode on this occasion.

Sir Pitty Thiyagarayar, a great political leader, was of a disposition of not accepting anything for the sake of office. For some time he was Mayor of Chennai Corporation. During his tenure, Prince of Wales visited Chennai. Arrangements were made on a grand scale for receiving the Prince. The then Governor told Sir Pitty Thiyagarayar, "As the first citizen of Chennai city, you should receive the Prince First." Sir Pitty Thiyagarayar agreed. Later a message came from the Governor and that was: "When you meet and receive the Prince, you should be in the attire of coat and suit". Sir Pitty Thiyagarayar firmly replied to the Government: "If the Prince wants to see me with my white dhothi, white coat and white turban, I will whole heartedly welcome him. If you decide that I cannot meet him with this attire, I will console myself that I am not fortunate enough to receive the Prince. I cannot change my traditional dress for the sake of receiving the Prince."

Do you know what happened then? The British Government bowed and permitted him to receive the Prince in his traditional dress.

Sir Pitty Thiyagarayar's stand vindicates the self-respect of Tamils. That is why the British Government conceded to his request.

Persons who have displayed such self-respect can speak about Sri Lankan Tamils. It is better others keep quiet. I request those, who have lost their self respect on account of their own selfishness, not to cast a slur on my actions against the Sri Lankan Government which is bent upon spoiling the welfare of the Sri Lankan Tamils. Now I am going to tell you a story.

There was a big businessman in a town. He joined hands with another small merchant and was doing business for some time. After a time the two parted ways. The big businessman complained that the small merchant had cheated him and was treating his employees as bonded labourers .

Vexed over the charge, the small merchant approached through his friend a high class advoc and waited for him. When the advocate came to the house, he pleaded with the advocate to take up his case. Taking pity on him, the advocate agreed and asked the merchant to bring the relevant documents.

The next day, the documents were produced. After going through them, the advocate expressed his inability to take up the case and asked the merchant to go to some other lawyer.

The merchant again pleaded: "I have great confidence in you; you have to win this case." The advocate cancelled his other engagements and agreed to take up the merchant's case. Soon, the case came up for hearing. The merchant was acquitted of the charge on account of the advocate's argument. But the merchant, thereafter, did neither meet the advocate nor thank him.

The merchant's friend said the lawyer's advocacy won the case. The merchant

however said the case filed against me was really weak. The advocate played no role. If the advocate forsook his other works and argued my case, it was for money.

The merchant in the story was a man of black complexion. It does not matter if his complexion alone is black. But he has proved that his heart is also black.

Like this, some people remain with us till they achieve their purpose. Later, they slander us every day.

Whatever others may speak of me, I am implementing welfare measures for the people with the motto, “My duty is to serve.”

From the day of assuming office, whenever I meet you, I have done so, with a bag of developmental plans and welfare assistance. This time also, I am to unveil several such schemes for you.

In my earlier term of office, I started the ‘Annadhanam’ scheme in temples to uphold the principle that people should come together without any caste distraction for partaking food. The scheme is now in operation in 468 temples in Tamil Nadu where devotees are fed during the day time. My Government has decided to further enlarge the scheme and serve food throughout the day as is done in Tirupathi Tirumala. In the first instance, food will be provided from 8 in the morning to 10 in the night to devotees coming to the Srirangam Arulmigu Ranganathaswamy temple and Palani Arulmigu Dandayuthapani Swamy temple. I am immensely happy to inaugurate this scheme.

In this lovely function, I have commissioned works connected with several departments and worth Rs. 27,13,88,000/- and dedicate them to the people:

- Essential works including 390 drinking water facility and road works under the ‘Thai’ scheme at a total cost of Rs. 2.90 crores in 120 hamlets in the Srirangam constituency;

- 100 Solar street lights in 7 Village Panchayats under the Anthanallur and Manapparai Panchayat Unions at a cost Rs. 54.78 lakhs;

- roads and overbridges costing Rs. 3,04,73,000 in Anthanallur, Manikandam and Manapparai Panchayat unions under the Integrated Pooled Assigned Revenue Scheme;

- works on 11 black topped roads at a cost of Rs. 1,90,18,000/-

through the 13th Finance Commission subsidy;

- 5 Road works completed at a cost of Rs. 1,82,12,000/- in Manikandam, Manapparai and Anthanallur Panchayat Unions under NABARD special Road scheme;

- 21 essential works completed at a cost of Rs. 1,17,00,000/- in areas within the Panchayat Unions of Anthanallur, Manikandam and Manaparai under the Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund;

- 26 works including school infrastructure, cement road, culverts undertaken at a cost of Rs. 50.90 lakhs under the MLA's Constituency Development Scheme;

- Cement Road works taken up at a cost of Rs. 11 lakhs under the self-sufficiency scheme;

- 21 works taken up at a cost of Rs. 60.17 lakhs under the Panchayat Union General Fund scheme;

- Structures undertaken at a cost Rs. 1.40 lakhs under Total Sanitation Scheme; and

- Construction of steps to waterbodies completed at a cost of Rs. 7.47 lakhs in Thiruparaithurai Panchayat.

Also, with great pride I dedicate for people's use a 6 Km stretch of two lane traffic with protective wall on the Tiruchy-Kulumani-Jeeyapuram Road, constructed at a cost of Rs. 3.28 crores;

- a minor bridge constructed at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs over a Kaattaru at the junction of Manapparai-Kulithalai road and Chennai-Dindigul road;

- a 2 Km stretch of 4-lane traffic with protective wall on the left bank of Cauvery-that is on the Kumbakonathan Road, constructed at a cost of Rs. 3 crores;

- drinking water schemes taken up at a cost of Rs. 5,06,67,000/-;

- an Art and Culture complex constructed at Srirangam at a cost of Rs. 96 lakhs on behalf of the Art and Culture Department;

- a library complex at Vadakku Devi Street in Srirangam constructed on behalf of Tiruchy Corporation as also toilets for the differently abled at Amma Mandapam, Srirangam Divisional office and Tiruvanaaikaval constructed at a cost of

Rs. 20 lakhs, a flower bazzar (Rs. 25 lakhs) and a library with infrastructural facilities in the Corporation school campus (Rs. 23.40 lakhs);

- a modern toilet for the differently abled at the Pettavaithalai bus stand, constructed on behalf of the Town Panchayat Administration at a cost of Rs. 2.25 lakhs; black-topped roads at the Sirugumani area (Rs. 35.15 lakhs) installation of 9 mini power pumps and other borewell works in Sirugumani area (Rs. 9 lakhs); a strom-water drainage at Bajanai Madam street (Rs. 7 lakhs);

- a modern veterinary dispensary on behalf of the Animal Husbandry Department at Pettavaithalai (Rs. 26.66 lakhs); and

- a full-time co-operative fair price shop at Akilandeswari Nagar and a part-time co-operative fair price shop at Ayilapettai.

Also, with my humble pride, I commissioned seven new suburban bus routes from Srirangam to Villupuram, Madurai, Palani, Sivagangai, Manapparai, Uppiliyappan Koil and Thanjavur.

Today, I have laid foundation for the construction of 745 green houses with solar power under the Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme, at a cost of Rs. 13.41 crores, for 597 houses under the Indira Awaz Yojana at a cost of Rs. 5.97 crores and for schemes on behalf of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, costing Rs. 32,19,24,000/- which included construction of bridges,

school buildings, a complex for Women's Health and laying of roads.

I am also happy to lay the foundation for developmental works on behalf of the Tiruchirapalli Corporation at a total cost of Rs. 83,63,24,000/-. They include underground drainage in the left-out areas of Srirangam and in areas around the boundary high walls of the temple (Rs. 24 crores); a butterfly park and Nakshatra Vanam (Zodiac Garden) on behalf of the Forest Department (Rs. 8.67 crores); a 6,500 tonnes capacity godown at Adhavathur (Rs. 3.03 crores), 1500 tonnes capacity godown at Muthapudayanpatti (Rs. 69.30 lakhs) on behalf of the civil supplies corporation; renovating the Arulmigu Jambukeswarar temple at Tiruvanaikovil on behalf of the Tourism Department (Rs. 3,58,97,000); a bridge across Kudamurutty river at Tiruchy-Kulumani-Jeeyapuram Road on behalf of the Highways Department (Rs. 2.80 crores); Drinking Water Schemes (Rs. 2,59,51,000/-); a Multi-functional Indoor Stadium at Srirangam Panchakarai Road (Rs. 1.50 crores); Office building for Srirangam Deputy Commissioner for Commercial Taxes (Rs. 80 lakhs); new veterinary dispensaries at Uthamarseeli and Aluthoor (Rs. 56.66 lakhs), Sub-registrar office building (Rs. 50 lakhs), welfare schemes for Adidravidar & Tribal Communities (Rs. 36.21 lakhs); and construction of a new hall for Annadhanam at Srirangam Arulmigu Aranganathaswamy temple (Rs. 1,33,35,000/-).

With pride, I am handing over, in this function, Government assistance worth Rs. 50,62,15,537/- to 34,000 beneficiaries.

As a token, I will distribute the assistance to 34 beneficiaries on this dais itself. Hon'ble Ministers and Government officials will hand over the assistance to other beneficiaries in their own respective places. The assistance include 619 fully constructed houses under the Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme, 631 houses under Indira Awaz Yojana, house pattas, monthly pension under the social security scheme, assistance under the Chief Minister's Farmers Protection Scheme, laptop at no cost, bi-cycles at no cost, assistance under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance scheme, cash assistance and gold coin under the Marriage Assistance schemes, goats and milch cows at no cost, maintenance grant for the mentally retarded children, and fans, mixies and grinders at no cost.

To create self-employment opportunities to the poor and downtrodden in Srirangam, training classes are being conducted at my MLA office in Srirangam. One hundred and three women had passed in the training – 37 in computer and 66 in tailoring – and I have great pleasure in presenting them the certificates issued by the Bharathidasan University.

Besides these, I took the initiative to get the younger generation employment opportunities in the private sector according to their educational qualifications. In the first phase, a recruitment camp was held on behalf of the TVS institution. One hundred and sixty eight persons – 43 from Srirangam Constituency and 125 from other constituencies – were selected. I am happy to present the appointment orders to them today. Steps will be taken to provide such opportunities in other institutions also.

I offer my good wishes to the beneficiaries of Government schemes, those who had passed in the computer and tailoring training courses and those who got placements in private institutions for greater and greater prosperity in their lives.

I take leave of you, hailing 'Anna Naamam Vazhga', 'Puratchi Thalaivar Naamam Vazhga'. ■

Colour Dresses

at no cost to 2,01,032 children in the age group 2 to 5 years in

Anganwadi Centres

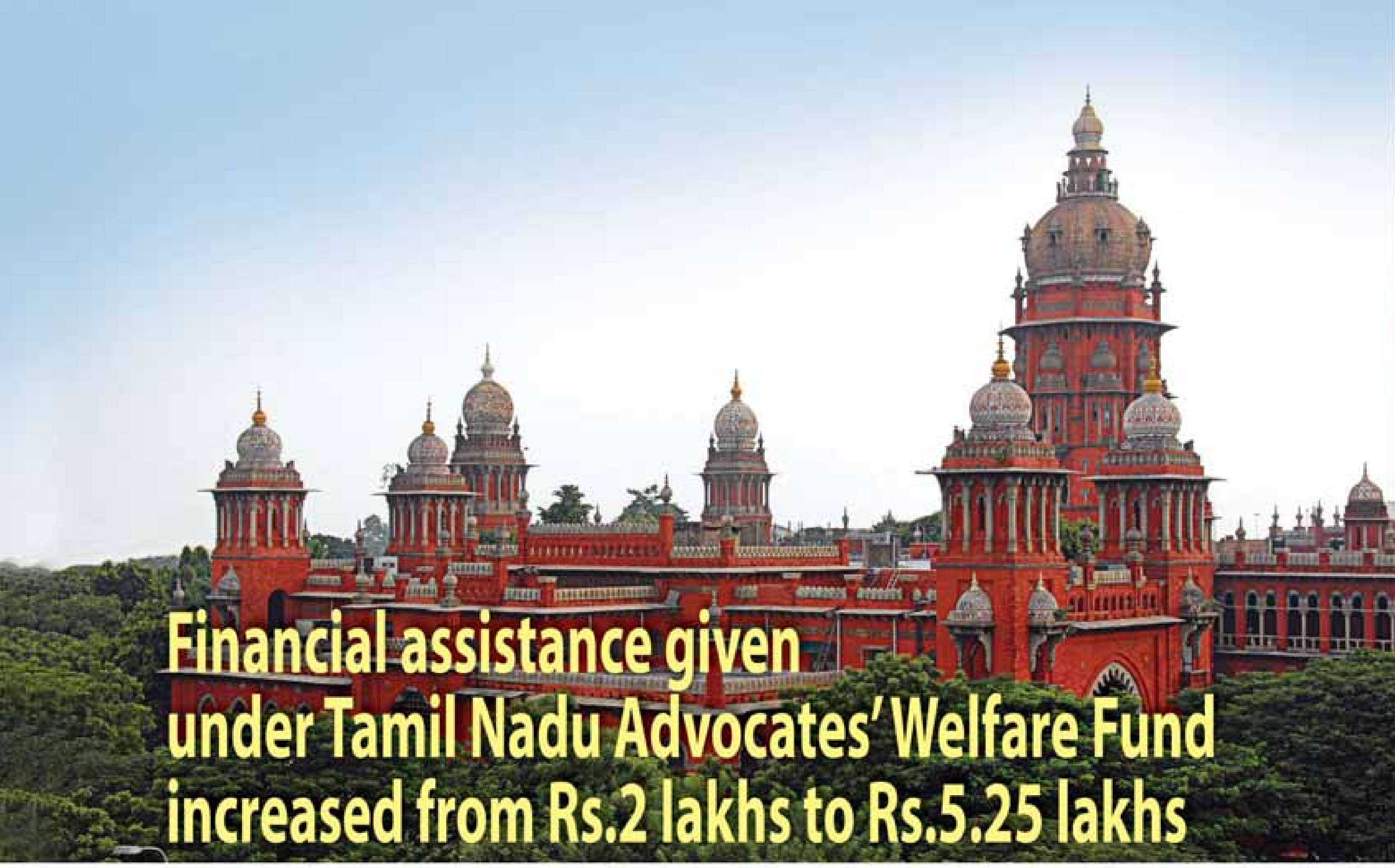
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated at the Secretariat on 5.9.2012 the scheme for distribution of colour dresses at no cost to 2,01,032 children in the age group 2-5 who undergo pre-school education in Anganwadi Centres, part of the Integrated Child Development Programme. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated the Rs. 1,000/- pension scheme for the poor transgenders who are above 40 years of age.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced at the Legislative Assembly on 14.6.2012 that 2 sets of colour dresses would be distributed at a cost of Rs. 4.30 crores for attracting children in the age group 2-5 to come to Anganwadis. In the first phase, the scheme would be implemented in the 5 districts of Chennai, Vellore, Tiruchy, Theni and Dindigul, benefiting 2,01,032 children. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the scheme by distributing the clothes to 7 children.

The break-up of the children benefiting under the scheme is 1,02,540 boys and 98,492 girls.

In the Demands for grants for the Social Welfare Department for 2012-2013, it was announced that the poor transgenders above 40 years of age would be given a monthly pension of Rs. 1,000/- each. Transgenders Welfare Board identify the transgenders and they are given identity cards. So far 3,125 transgenders have been issued the Identity cards. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the pension scheme for the eligible transgenders who are above 40 years, from among these persons.

For this pension scheme, Rs. 1,17,59,000/- have been allotted for the current year.



Financial assistance given under Tamil Nadu Advocates' Welfare Fund increased from Rs.2 lakhs to Rs.5.25 lakhs

Speech delivered by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,**
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
at the Sesquicentennial
Valedictory function of Madras High Court on 8.9.2012

“அனைவருக்கும் எனது அன்பு கலந்த வணக்கத்தை முதற்கண் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

I am happy to address this august gathering. The City of Chennai has just celebrated its 373rd birthday on 22nd August, 2012. This is a fitting occasion to laud and extol the history and legal heritage of the High Court of Madras which has been and will remain a testament to the country's unparalleled justice dispensation system.

To appreciate the present and dream for the future, we have to be conscious of our past. Chennai's past belongs to this place here – behind Central Station, Wall Tax Road, Esplanade, the Fort St. George, the High Court and the sandy stretch west of Fort St. George.

Even today, children in this City are told about the 1914 World War-I and stories of the German ship Emden bombing Madras on 22nd September, 1914. The bombs were aimed at the Light House in the Madras High Court.

The Madras High Court has inherited a rich tapestry in its legacy of history, architecture and jurisprudence.

The High Court of Madras was established by The Indian High Courts Act, 1861, passed by the British Parliament. The Act authorised Queen Victoria to issue letters patent under the seal of the United Kingdom to erect and establish High Courts of Judicature. The High Court of Madras which saw its birth then has never looked back since and we are immensely proud to be part of the celebrations marking its 150th year. This celebration not only commemorates the age of this venerable institution but is also a celebration of its glorious history and a tribute to the legal luminaries who have walked the corridors of this great institution.

Justice is a constitutional mandate. The Judiciary is the repository of public faith. The legal system of our country, one of the oldest in the world, is not the creation of one man or of one day but is the cumulative fruit of the endeavour, experience, thoughtful planning and patient labour of a large number of people through many generations. It has altered itself as well as developed over the past few centuries to absorb inferences from the legal systems across the world. The Constitution of India is the fountainhead of the Indian Legal System.

In ancient India, the various sources of law relied upon by the kings of yore were shrutis, smritis, puranas, dharmasutras, dharmashastras, etc.

The Arthashastra and Manusmriti were influential treatises in India, texts that were considered authoritative legal guidance.

Before Madras attained the position of a Presidency in 1665, it had two courts, namely, the Choultry Court and the Court of the Agent and Council.

The Company was granted charter by King George I in 1726 to establish "Mayor's Courts" in Madras, Bombay and Calcutta.

These courts were converted as the first High Courts through letters patent authorized by the Indian High Courts Act passed by the British Parliament. Through the centuries, the High Court of Madras has charted its way, metamorphosing into a crucial front in the interpretation and enforcement of law in the State.

I have always been fascinated by the High Court building. It is with great awe that we recall the 12th of July, 1892, when this splendid Indo-Saracenic Court Complex built at a cost of Rs. 12,98,163/- was inaugurated with a 17 gun salute. The Madras High Court building is acknowledged by one and all, as the finest High Court building in the whole of India - an architectural masterpiece. Nothing more fitting can be said of it than - It is a magnificent building with an equally grand judicial heritage. It is a constant reminder of the unbiased and judicious framework within which the High Court of Madras has evolved and the ideals it continues to cherish and uphold.

My Government has always been very sensitive to the needs of the High Court. In March, 2002, an amount of Rs. 56.45 crores was sanctioned for establishing the Court buildings for the Madurai Bench of the

Madras High Court. The buildings at Madurai were inaugurated on 24th July, 2004.

Ever since my Government took charge again in May 2011, sanctions for Rs.159.82 crores for various court and court related buildings have been issued.

An amount of Rs. 10 crores has recently been sanctioned for an Auditorium and Museum for which I have laid the foundation today.

To nurture and perpetuate our old tradition of having the best legal brains in the Country and to foster high quality legal education, a National Law School at Srirangam has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.100 crores. Preliminary works have commenced.

On this memorable occasion, I would like to pay a tribute to the contributions of all the legal stalwarts like Sir Muthuswami Iyer who became the first Indian judge of the Madras High Court, V. Krishnaswamy Iyer, S.Duraiswami Iyer, Sir V.Bashyam Iyengar, the first Advocate General - the list seems endless. The footprints they have left behind stand out as beacon lights for the generations to come. The strict code of ethics they practised has set the standard to be achieved for all time to come.

In the fast changing socio-economic environment, litigation is on the increase. Litigants expect quick resolutions to their issues. The role of Advocates is very pivotal in ensuring that the litigant public are not put to hardship.

I have great pleasure in announcing an increase of financial assistance under the Tamil Nadu Advocates' Welfare Fund from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5.25 lakhs without any service period restriction in the event of death of an Advocate. A recurring annual Government grant will be given, up to Rs. 4 crores, for the Tamil Nadu Advocates' Welfare Fund.

Judges and Lawyers from Tamil Nadu are renowned for their erudition and scholarship. Several constitutional amendments and illustrious judgements stemmed from this bank of legal acumen. It should be our endeavour to preserve this distinction.

Impartiality is the foundation stone of the administration of justice.

It is imperative that public faith in the country's judicial system is not eroded.

In conclusion, I am tempted to say, "Men may come and men may go, but the High Court of Madras will go on forever."

I wish this function a grand success.

Thank you."

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated a new Engineering College affiliated to the Anna University at Bodinayakanur

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated on 5.9.2012 through video conferencing at the Secretariat an Engineering College, affiliated to the Anna University, at Bodinayakanur in Theni District.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister's aim is that all sections of the student community should get higher education of international standard and acquire skills to meet the needs of the changing times. The Government's aim is that students in Tamil Nadu should have easy access to technological education. It is taking steps to start Engineering Colleges at locations nearer to the places of residence of rural poor and middle class students.

The Bodinayakanur Engineering College inaugurated on 5.9.2012 will have a student strength of 300; 60 each in each of the branches of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering and Computer Science and Engineering.

The Government has allotted Rs. 93.64 crores for various works connected with

the college, like buildings, equipments, teachers' appointment, hostels for men and women students, library and laboratories.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open the new buildings constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 60.15 crores for the Anna University affliated engineering colleges at Panruti in Cuddalore District, Rajamadam in Thanjavur District and at Konam in Kanniyakumari District as also for the Government College of Technology, Coimbatore; for the various colleges of technology at Keezhakanavai in Perambalur District, Ambalakaranpatti in Madurai District, Kottur in Theni District, Korkai in Tiruvarur District and at Krishnagiri in Krishnagiri District (all at the cost of Rs.29.44 crores); for the class rooms, libraries, women's hostels in the following colleges:- Presidency College, Bharathi Women's College, Queen Mary's College and the Nandanam Government Arts College in Chennai District, Government Arts College in Cuddalore District, Government Arts College in Villupuram District, Government Arts and Science College and Burgur Government Arts College (women) in Krishnagiri District, Government Arts College in Ariyalur District, Namakkal Kavignar Ramalingam Government Arts College in Namakkal District, Government Arts College for women in Ramanathapuram Dstrict, Government Arts College for women in Sivagangai District, Government Teacher Training Institute for Women in Coimbatore District, Orathanadu Government Teacher Training Institute, Orathanadu Government Arts College for Women and Kunthavai Nachiyar Government Arts College in Thanjavur District (all at the cost of Rs. 12.86 crores) and for the Karaikudi Alagappa University in Sivagangai District, Periyar University in Salem District and for Bharathidasan University in Tiruchy District (Rs. 8.12 crores).

The total estimated cost of the buildings declared open on 5.9.2012 is Rs. 110.57 crores.

Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department and other high officials participated. ❖

Emphasise on cleanliness in hospitals

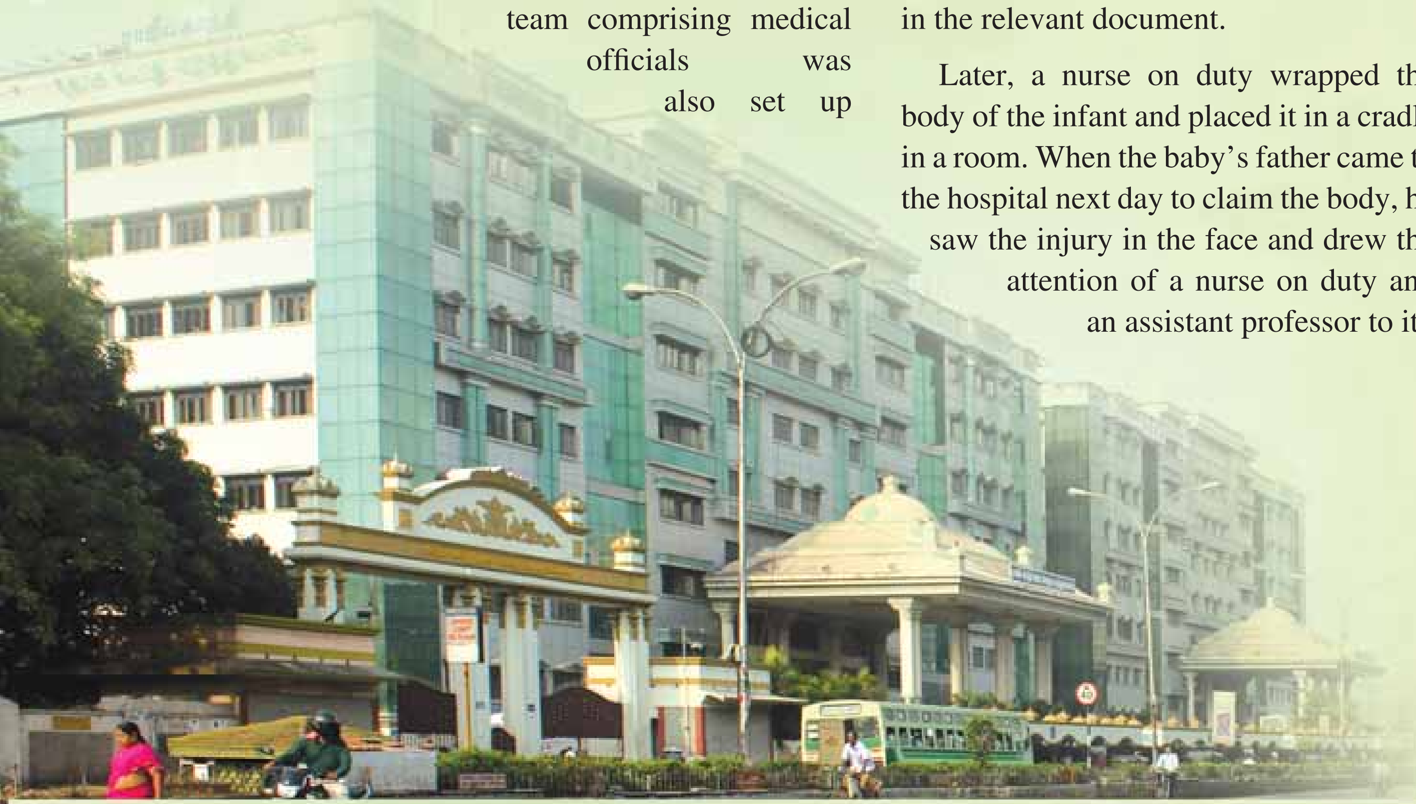
Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 28.8.2012
(English Translation)

On getting the information that the face of a dead infant got mutilated at the Government Kasturba Gandhi Hospital for Women and Children at Triplicane, Chennai, I ordered a thorough investigation and severe action against those responsible for the incident.

Following my order, the Hon'ble Minister for Health and the Secretary to Government went to the hospital and conducted an enquiry. An investigating team comprising medical officials was also set up immediately. After a thorough investigation, it submitted a report.

The report stated that Tmt. Malar, wife of Thiru. Ranjithkumar delivered a female infant on 15.8.2012 and as the baby was prematured, it was placed in an incubator. After some days the baby developed fever and breathlessness. Artificial respiration was given and intensive treatment was provided. Despite all these, the infant died on 26.8.2012 at 5.45 PM. Thiru. Ranjithkumar was informed of the development. He saw the dead infant. But at that time, there was no injury on the face of the baby. He also affixed his signature in the relevant document.

Later, a nurse on duty wrapped the body of the infant and placed it in a cradle in a room. When the baby's father came to the hospital next day to claim the body, he saw the injury in the face and drew the attention of a nurse on duty and an assistant professor to it.



As per Government rules, when a death occurred in the hospital and where there was no need for a post-mortem, the body should be immediately handed over to the next of the kin of the deceased. In the above case, the rules were not followed. Nor was the body of the infant kept safe in the mortuary. Nine medical personnel including 2 doctors have been suspended over the incident for negligence of duty.

The enquiry has revealed that the injury in the face had been inflicted after the infant had died. It may be due to tissue alteration brought about by septicemia. However, to ascertain whether the injury was caused by rat bite, steps have been taken for conducting a post-mortem and for tissue testing.

To consider steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents in Tamil Nadu, a review meeting was held today (28.8.2012) at the Secretariat. I presided over the meeting. Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department and other high officials participated. Following decisions were taken:-

1. The hospital administration should ensure the handing over of the body of a deceased to the next of the kin immediately where there is no need for post-mortem as per the Hospital Rules.

2. Steps will be taken to prevent dogs, cats and rodents from coming into Government hospital premises. Necessary additional workers will be appointed to achieve this.

3. Irulas, trained in catching rats will be employed in this task.

4. All local bodies, including Chennai Corporation, jointly with the hospital administration will ensure that necessary steps will be taken in this regard.

5. As visitors to patients in hospitals take food in the hospital premises itself, the menace of dog, cat and rat occur. Hence steps will be taken to prevent such food consumption in hospital premises.

6. Mobile eateries functioning inside hospital premises will be closed down immediately. Visiting public will be compelled to take food in the canteen.

7. The hospital administration will take steps to permit the visitors only during the visitors time.

I request the people to extend their co-operation to the above measures for maintaining cleanliness in hospitals. ■

Washing machines to Government Children's Homes and Service Homes

"Learning is a wealth which is everlasting. No other wealth is the real wealth", said the great poet-saint Thiruvalluvar. In consonance with this saying, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has been distributing incentives for learning, nutritious meal, school uniforms at no cost, books and notebooks, educational tools, bi-cycle and laptop with the view that all sections of people should get education without any hindrance.

Through 27 Government Children's homes and 7 service homes functioning under the Directorate of Social Welfare, food, shelter, uniforms and educational facilities are provided to destitute and poor children and destitute widows. Since the children in these homes wash their clothes by themselves, their study time is getting wasted.

To reduce the workload of the children in these homes and help them devote the washing time for their study and rest, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the purchase of 34 washing machines of a usable quality used in industries and hospitals, at a cost of Rs. 3.50 lakhs each and their distribution to the 27 Government children's homes and 7 Government service homes. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 1.20 crores for this.

Through this measure, the children in the Government homes would be enabled to concentrate on their studies during their leisure time and acquit themselves well in examinations. ❍

50 SUB-CENTRES TO PROVIDE VETERINARY CARE IN HAMLETS WITHOUT SUCH FACILITIES

As cattle play an essential role in the development of rural economy and are the backbone to improve the standard of living of villagers, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has been bestowing great attention in animal husbandry.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has already ordered the immediate filling up of 843 vacant posts of veterinary assistant surgeons and the creation of 20 new veterinary dispensaries. Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the opening of 50 veterinary sub-centres at a cost of Rs. 1,06,74,000/- so as to take veterinary medical care even to hamlets.

A dairy farm with a capacity to handle 2 lakh litres of milk per day and a factory to manufacture 20 tons of milk powder are being set up through the National Dairy Development Board at Ammapalayam, Melmudiyanur village, Sengam Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District. To complete the factory works expeditiously, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the release of Rs. 11.51 crores to the National Dairy Development Board over and above the Rs. 45.74 crores already released. This modern Dairy Farm and the milk powder factory will commence their production in July, 2013.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the starting of 3 more veterinary training and research centres at Thiruvannamalai, Krishnagiri and Villupuram at a cost of Rs. 2.40 crores on the lines of such centres of the Veterinary University Training and Research Centres now functioning at 15 district headquarters. These centres facilitate the conveying of modern technology in cattle rearing to rural people and provide training to veterinary doctors. Eighteen new posts will also be created to man these three centres at the rate of 6 posts per centre viz., one Associate Professor, 2 Assistant Professors, one typist, one technical worker and one office assistant.

Taking into account the growing demand for veterinary doctors and by way of fulfilling the demands of delta farmers, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has already ordered the setting up of a Veterinary Medical College and research centre at Orathanad in Thanjavur District. For this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the transfer of land rights without claiming compensation in respect of 160.93 acres in Melathottam and Keezhathottam in Muthammalpuram villages, owned by the livestock farm and 16.99 acres belonging to Muthammalpuram choultry administration, a total of 177.92 acres.

These measures of the Government will bring about a renaissance in the field of Animal Husbandry. ■

Stop the training given to the Sri Lankan defence personnel by the Ministry of Defence

Text of the D.O. letter dated 25.8.2012 addressed by
Selvi J Jayalalithaa,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to
Dr. Manmohan Singh,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"I would like to draw your attention to my D.O. letter dated 16.7.2012 wherein I have expressed in no unclear terms the strong views of my Government on imparting training to defence personnel belonging to Sri Lanka. Because of my vehement opposition nine personnel belonging to the Sri Lankan Air Force who were undergoing technical training at the Air Force Station, Tambaram, Tamil Nadu, were relocated to the Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru. This action itself was not proper because instead of sending these personnel back to Sri Lanka, the Government of India exhibited excessive enthusiasm and concern for these personnel by relocating them to Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru, in order to enable them to complete their training.

Such a reprehensible attitude on the part of the Government of India is even now reflected in permitting two defence personnel of the Sri Lanka namely (1) Major Dissanayaka Mohottalalage Vengra, of the Sri Lankan Army and (2) Captain Hewawasam Kandaudage, of the Sri Lankan Navy to undergo 11 months training at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, from 19.5.2012 onwards. It is very clear that this fact of ongoing training since May, 2012, has been mischievously concealed from my Government, showing scant regard for the views of my Government as well as for the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu.

I, therefore, request you to give suitable instructions to the Ministry of Defence to immediately halt the training being given to the Sri Lankan defence personnel at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, and arrange to send them back to Sri Lanka immediately."

Flyover works will be carried out without removing the Perarignar Anna Platinum Jubilee Memorial Arch

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 5.9.2012
(English Translation)

Perarignar Anna Platinum Jubilee Memorial Arch was constructed during Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R's regime and was declared open by him on 1.1.1986. An important land mark of Chennai city, the arch stands firm as Puratchi Thalaivar's fame, in the hearts of the people.

On getting the news that the arch is being removed, I ordered the suspension of the work and called for a detailed discussion on it. Under my chairmanship, a meeting was held today (5.9.2012) at the Secretariat.

Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development, Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon'ble Minister for Highways, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, Municipal Administration and Rural Development Department, Principal Secretary, Highways Department, Commissioner, Chennai Corporation and other high officials participated.

At the meeting, I enquired the officials about the news that works were on to remove the city's landmark 'Anna Arch' that was constructed by Puratchi Thalaivar MGR in the name of Perarignar Anna. On the officers' side, it was stated at the meeting that the arch was being removed to facilitate the construction of a flyover connecting Nelson Manickam Road and Anna Nagar 3rd Avenue for reducing traffic congestion at Arumbakkam on EVR Salai. The project was to cost about Rs. 117 crores and was approved by the then DMK Government in 2010. I held a detailed discussion with the officials on the possibility of carrying out the flyover works without disturbing the Anna Arch.

After the detailed discussion, I ordered the execution of the flyover works without removing the Anna Arch that was opened by Puratchi Thalaivar MGR in 1986 and was one of the landmarks of Chennai City.

I would like to inform that the location of the flyover which runs from EVR Salai to Anna Nagar will be slightly aligned eastwards and the project executed.

I am happy to inform that this action of my Government has prevented the removal of the 'Perarignar Anna Platinum Jubilee Memorial Arch', a landmark of Chennai. ❖

NEWS IN PICTURES

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** chaired a review meeting at Secretariat, Chennai on 23.8.2012 on the new power projects to overcome the power shortage prevailing in the State.Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Energy Department, Chairman, TNEB and high officials participated in the meeting.

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** administered Sadbhavana Day Pledge at Secretariat, Chennai on 17.8.2012 in commemoration of the birth anniversary of late Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi.

NEWS IN PICTURES

Hon’ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** chaired a meeting at Secretariat, Chennai on 17.8.2012 on the action to be taken against the Emu Farm owners who have cheated the investors. Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Home, Prohibition & Excise Department, Secretary, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department participated in the meeting.

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Hon’ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** at Secretariat, Chennai on 11.9.2012 to discuss ways of controlling the escalating price of rice due to setback in Kuruvai cultivation caused by the non-release of water by the Government of Karnataka as per the interim order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. Hon’ble Minister for Finance, Hon’ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Hon’ble Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development, Hon’ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon’ble Minister for Co-operation, Hon’ble Minister for Food, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Secretary, Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department and high officials participated in the meeting.

Subsidy for tilling operations doubled to encourage Samba cultivation

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** on 11.9.2012 (English Translation)

In a situation, where, Karnataka has not released water in the Cauvery for Tamil Nadu in time, I directed the Mettur dam be thrown open for Samba cultivation from 17.9.2012 taking into account that the North East monsoon may set in, during the 3rd week of October. Not only that, I announced new strategies that are to be adopted without affecting the Samba cultivation and allotted Rs. 53.53 crores for their implementation.

Following my direction, Agriculture Department officials organised special camps and seminars in the Districts of Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur, Tiruchy and Cuddalore and created extensive awareness among farmers with the view of implementing the new scheme speedily and with great care. The officials also listened to the views and suggestions of the farmers.

As a sequel of these efforts farmers have taken steps to raise community nurseries in 2,754 acres in the last 10 days. In the coming 10 days, 7,250 more acres will be turned into community nurseries. Moreover 53,225 acres have been brought under plough to facilitate direct sowing and such sowing has been completed in 47,000 acres. Farmers have taken up Samba cultivation in 3000 more acres through transplantation.

Farmers have greatly welcomed this scheme. As a further incentive and by way of acceding to the farmers' demands made at the camps, I have directed the subsidy for tilling work be increased from Rs. 240/- to Rs. 480/- per acre, the acreage for tilling operation be increased to 2,50,000 acres from the already permitted area of 1,00,000 acres, issuing of 30 kilos of certified seeds per acre for direct sowing of paddy and these seeds are to be distributed with a subsidy of Rs. 10/- per kilo. These steps will entail the Government an additional expenditure of Rs. 17.10 crores. Inclusive of this amount, Rs. 70.63 crores have been allotted for Delta farmers for Samba cultivation. In addition, a 50 per cent subsidy will be given to farmers for purchase of sowing machines.

These measures of my Government will bring in a new strength and enthusiasm among farmers and act as an incentive. They will also ensure that the Samba cultivation is carried out without any slackness.

Rs.53.53 crores allotted for new strategies in Samba cultivation to protect farmers' welfare

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 24.8.2012 (English Translation)

As per the interim award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, 95.480 TMC of waters should have been released into Mettur Reservoir from June to 23.8.2012. Even as per the Distress Sharing Formula of the Central Water Commission, 43.837 TMC ft. of waters should have reached the Mettur Reservoir. But only 9.187 TMC ft. of water have been realised at the Mettur Reservoir till now.

I had requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister by a letter dated 18.5.2012 to convene a meeting of the Cauvery River Water Authority immediately for releasing water in Cauvery for meeting the needs of Tamil Nadu. When no action was taken over the letter, a petition was filed in the Supreme Court on behalf of Tamil Nadu seeking a directive for the convening of a meeting of the Cauvery River Water Authority. The Supreme Court has sought a response from the Centre over the petition.

When no action was forth coming from the Centre for convening a meeting of the Cauvery River Water Authority, I again wrote a letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 23.8.2012, urging him to immediately convene a meeting of the Authority.

As Karnataka has not released the water required for the Kuruvai cultivation in Tamil Nadu and the Central Government failed to advise the Karnataka Government to release the needed water to Tamil Nadu as per the interim award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and as the storage in Mettur Reservoir is only 38.813 TMC ft. of water, water could not be released for cultivation till date. As a result, Kuruvai cultivation in the State has been greatly affected. Still, Kuruvai cultivation has been undertaken in 1,60,000 acres because three phase power is being supplied to delta farmers for 12 hours a day.

In these circumstances, a review meeting was held under my chairmanship, at the Secretariat on 23.8.2012 to consider release of water from Mettur Reservoir for Samba cultivation, the new strategies to be adopted in Samba cultivation so as to protect the farmers' livelihood from any adverse effects on account of the delayed release of water from Mettur Reservoir.

Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration

and Rural Development, Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Chief Secretary, Public Works Department Secretary, Agriculture Department Secretary and other high Government officials participated in the meeting.

Taking into account, the present storage position in Mettur Reservoir and that water is required for the whole Samba season and expecting that the North East monsoon will set, in the 3rd week of October, the meeting decided that Mettur Reservoir be thrown open on 17.9.2012 for Samba cultivation.

Since Mettur Reservoir is to be opened on 17.9.2012, new strategies have to be adopted in this distress period without affecting the Samba cultivation. The meeting decided on the following steps:

1. Samba cultivation can be undertaken through direct sowing and through raising community nurseries. This will cut short the crop period by 15 to 21 days.

2. As there will be an overgrowth of weeds in the directly-sown fields and for protecting the moisture of the soil, a subsidy of Rs. 240/- per acre will be given. In the first phase Rs. 2.40 crores will be allotted, towards this subsidy. Additional funds will be allocated depending on the needs.

3. In the places where direct sowing is undertaken, the Agricultural Engineering Department will rent out sowing and fertiliser application machines on a 50 percent subsidy so as to maintain correct crop statistics and to facilitate farmers to get these machines easily. A sum of Rs. 10.8 lakhs will be allotted for this.

4. To augment its stock, 30 more sowing and fertiliser application machines will be purchased at a cost of Rs. 22.50 lakhs for the Agricultural Engineering Department.

5. To weed out the fields, weed killers will be distributed on 50 percent subsidy at the rate of Rs. 400/- per acre. For this Rs. 2 crores will be allocated.

6. In the Delta Districts, the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method will be adopted in 384 villages. Through this, 1.48 lakh acres will be brought under the system of Rice Intensification.

7. Land Levelling machines will be rented out at 50 percent subsidy in the villages where SRI cultivation method is adopted. For this, Rs. 15.12 lakhs will be allotted.

8. Tractors also will be rented out through the Agricultural Engineering Department at 50 percent subsidy to help farmers take up tilling work. A sum of Rs. 1.02 crores will be allotted for this.

9. For purchase of sowing machines, farmers will be given 50 percent subsidy. A sum of Rs. 2.53 crores will be allocated for this.

10. Rs. 3.15 crores will be allotted for the Agricultural Engineering Department for purchase of tractors and sowing machines.

11. A pioneering project of raising community nurseries will be implemented for reducing the duration of the Samba crop. As per this project, nurseries will be raised at Government cost in the fields of agricultural pioneers who own pumpsets. The seedlings from these nurseries will be distributed to farmers at no cost. Farmers who come forward to raise these nurseries will be given certified seeds, Rs. 12,000/- per acre towards cultivation expenses and Rs. 3000/- per acre as incentive. To start with, community nurseries will be set up in 10,000 acres. For this, Rs. 19 crores will be allotted.

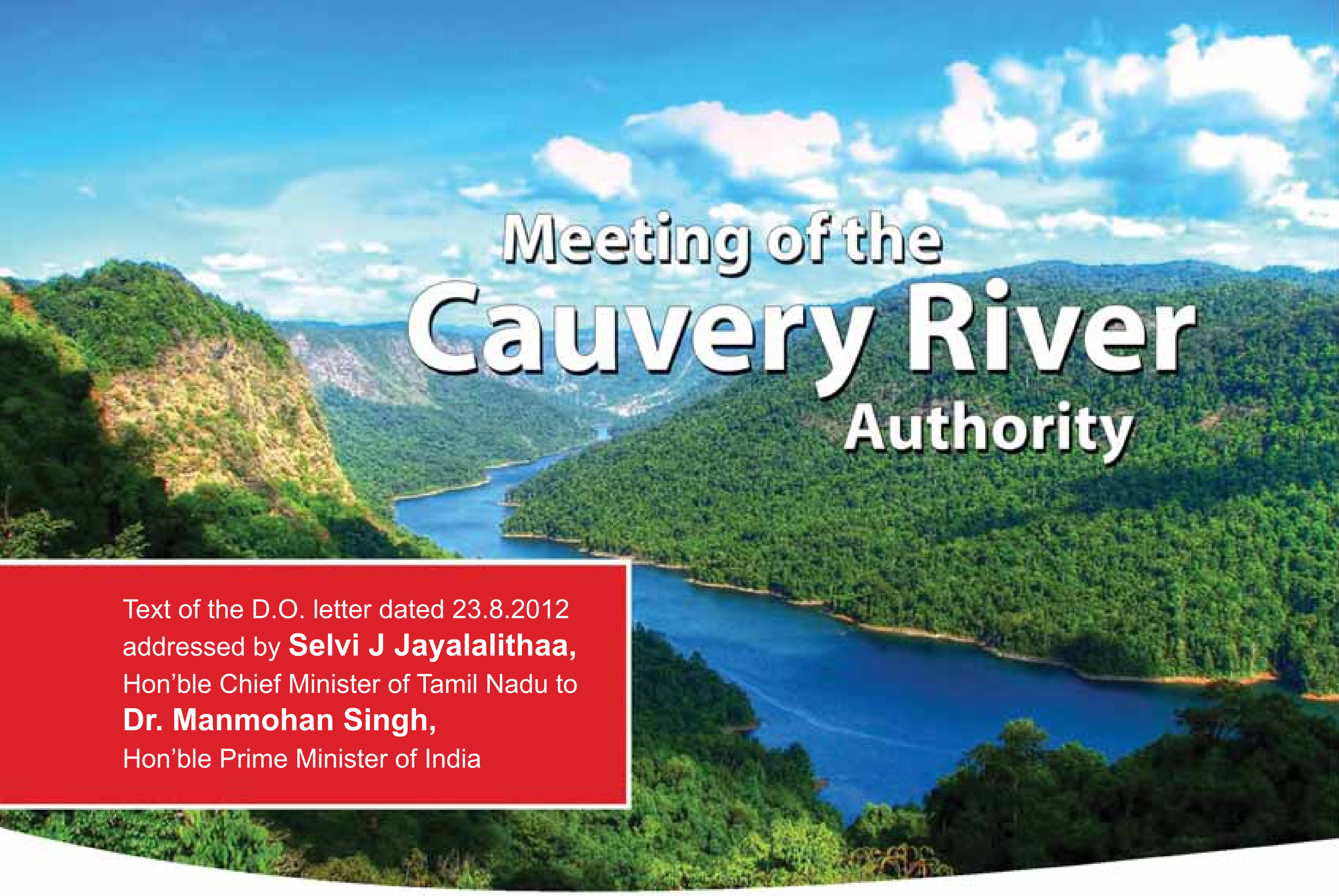
12. Base fertilisers will be supplied with 25 percent subsidy to farmers who cultivate Samba crop through raising nurseries. A sum of Rs. 11.25 crores will be allotted for this.

13. To increase the productivity of the paddy crop, Zinc Sulphate, Gypsum, micro-nutrient fertiliser-mix, and organic manure will be supplied to farmers with 75 percent subsidy. Rs. 11.20 crores will be allotted for this.

14. Rs. 50 lakhs will be allotted to bring about an awareness among farmers on these new strategies and to train them on these lines.

Totally Rs. 53.53 crores will be allotted for initiating these new steps.

These steps to be undertaken by my Government will pave way for the protection of farmers' interests and for the production of needed food grains.



Meeting of the Cauvery River Authority

Text of the D.O. letter dated 23.8.2012 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,** Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"I had, in my letter dated 18.5.2012, brought to your notice the urgent need for convening a meeting of the Cauvery River Authority to decide certain specific issues. My request is yet to be acceded to.

The Interlocutory Application filed by the Government of Tamil Nadu before the Supreme Court in July 2012, came up for hearing on 13.8.2012. The Government of Tamil Nadu sought a direction to the Union of India to convene a meeting of the Cauvery River Authority. The Hon'ble Supreme Court sought the views of the Government of India regarding convening a meeting of the Cauvery River Authority.

You are aware that, according to the Rules and Regulations for the conduct of the business of the Cauvery River Authority, the quorum for the meeting shall be 3 members in addition to the Chairperson and further, the decision shall ordinarily be by consensus and that, in case no consensus is reached, the decision may be left to the Chairperson. You may recall that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 6.2.2003 in an I.A. filed by the State of Tamil Nadu (I.A. No. 3/2003 in O.S. No.3/2002), inter-alia, had directed that in the absence of unanimity or consensus, the decision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister who is the Chairperson of the Cauvery River Authority shall be decisive. Therefore, without prejudice to the pending proceedings in the Supreme Court, the Hon'ble Prime Minister as the Chairperson may convene a meeting of the Cauvery River Authority and the Distress Sharing Formula can be adopted as a situation of distress has arisen now.

I wish to bring to your notice that the Government of Karnataka has not released any

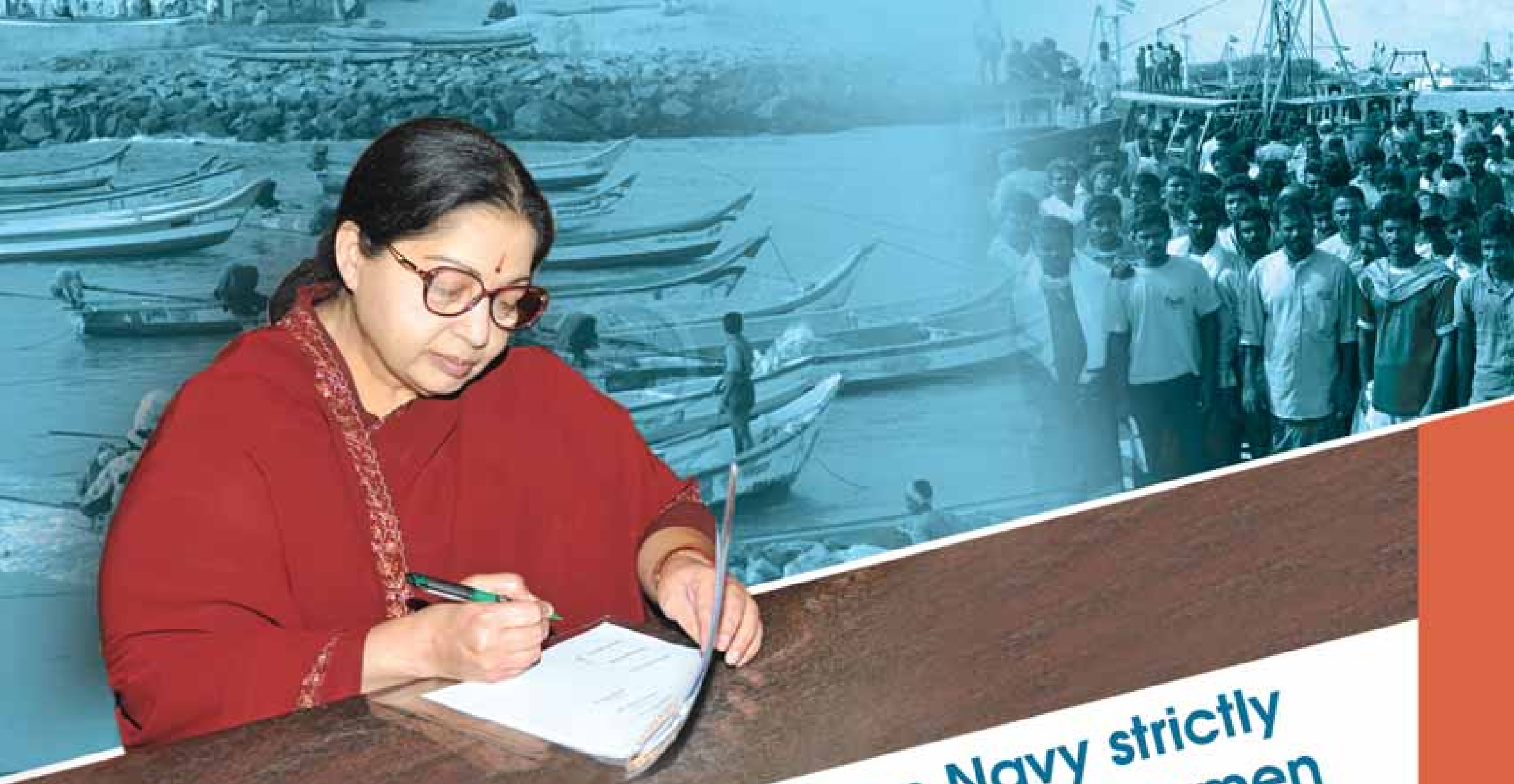
water from its reservoirs during the irrigation year of 2012-2013, while it has opened the reservoir for its irrigation. However, the Mettur Dam could not be opened till date due to the reluctance of the Government of Karnataka even to share minimum flows. According to the Interim Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal which is in force, as on 23.8.2012 Mettur Dam should have realised 95.480 TMC ft. against which only a meagre quantity of 9.187 TMC ft. has been realised. Further, according to the Distress Sharing Formula evolved by the Central Water Commission, Mettur Dam should have realised about 43.837 TMC ft. as on 23.8.2012. The farmers in the Cauvery Delta, having lost the Kuruvai crop, are hoping at least to raise one single Samba crop for their livelihood. It is, therefore, imperative that the Government of Karnataka is advised to release water to make good the shortfall quantity as per the Distress Sharing Formula and also to share the flows in this distress situation.

May I, therefore, once again request you to kindly convene a meeting of the Cauvery River Authority forthwith.

I, further, request that pending convening the meeting of the Cauvery River Authority, the Government of Karnataka may be advised to release water for raising the Samba crop in the Cauvery Basin of Tamil Nadu."

104th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF PERARIGNAR ANNA

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** paid floral tributes to the portrait of Perarignar Anna kept near his statue at Anna Salai, Chennai to mark his 104th birth anniversary on 15.9.2012. Members of the Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly, representatives of the local bodies and public in large number were present during the occasion.



Ensure that the Sri Lankan Navy strictly refrains from harassing Indian fishermen

Text of the D.O. letter
dated 20.8.2012 addressed by
Selvi J Jayalalithaa,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to
Dr. Manmohan Singh,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"I wish to bring to your kind notice, a worrisome incident of attack and harassment of innocent Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy on 18th August, 2012. Five Fibre Glass Reinforced Plastic Vallam boats belonging to Vellapallam and Vanavanmadevi fishing villages in Vedaranyam taluk of Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu ventured into the sea for fishing on 17.8.2012 and 18.8.2012 with 18 fishermen on board. When they were fishing in the sea at a depth of 15 fathoms near Vellapallam area on 18.8.2012, the fishermen in the above 5 fishing boats were brutally attacked by Sri Lankan Naval personnel who came to the spot in a boat bearing Number D-146. The Naval personnel, besides attacking the fishermen, seized their ice boxes, food and other fishing implements in the boats and dumped them into the sea. They also cut the nets laid by the fishermen. Serious injuries were

inflicted on one fisherman, Thiru Kuppusamy, S/o Ramiah, with a knife on his right wrist, in addition to 7 other fishermen who sustained minor injuries due to assault with rubber rods. All the injured fishermen were given medical treatment in the Government Hospital at Nagapattinam on their return to the shore on 19.8.2012.

This incident is yet another instance of the high handedness of Sri Lankan Naval personnel who keep on targeting the poor and innocent fishermen of Tamil Nadu while they try to eke out their livelihood through fishing. I am distressed to once again have to point out that the incidents of harassment of Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy simply continue unabated. I had already informed you in my letter dated 23.7.2012 that, unless the Government of India intervenes in this issue, there is every possibility of recurrence of such incidents in the coming months and this incident reinforces our apprehension.

The Sri Lankan Navy, emboldened by the soft handling of the issue by the Government of India, is attacking/harassing the fishermen of Tamil Nadu with impunity. The Statements at diplomatic level meetings of the two countries stating that "the use of force on fishermen cannot be justified by any means" remain only on paper and are honoured more in the breach by the Sri Lankan Navy, who seem to be making a mockery of the entire diplomatic process.

I, therefore, request you to kindly take up this issue strongly with the Sri Lankan Government and ensure that the Sri Lankan Navy strictly refrains from harassing Indian fishermen who conduct fishing in their traditional waters for their subsistence and ensure that such incidents do not occur in future.

I solicit your urgent action. "

1,00,000 concrete houses at an estimate of Rs.1000 crores to people who have lost their houses by 'Thane' cyclone

Even while taking up the needed relief measures for the people whenever they are affected by natural calamities, the Government headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been implementing their long-term relief works also with great concern and involvement.

When 'Thane' cyclone struck Tamil Nadu during the closing period of 2011 and inflicted great damage to the infrastructure, crops, houses and boats in the districts of Cuddalore and Villupuram and caused havoc to the belongings and life-support of the people there, rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures were undertaken on a war-footing and at a speed that exceeded even that of the cyclone's.

With a view to provide permanent dwellings to those who had lost their houses due to the cyclone, the Hon'ble Chief Minister had already announced that 1,00,000 concrete houses would be constructed at an estimate of Rs. 1,000 crores.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 1,000 crores for construction of 90,000 concrete houses in Cuddalore district and 10,000 concrete houses in Villupuram district.

Under this plan, houses measuring 200 sq ft each and having a living room, a kitchen and a toilet will be constructed at a cost of Rs.1 lakh each.

This measure of the Government will greatly remove the distress of the people affected by 'Thane' cyclone.

SEND BACK THE SRI LANKAN FOOTBALL TEAM

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa
on 2.9.2012 (English Translation)

The Central Government has been hurting the sentiments of Tamils by its actions over Sri Lankan matters. The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly passed a resolution for imposition, along with other countries, of an economic blockade against Sri Lanka till that Country granted equal rights to its Tamils and helped the locally displaced Tamils to return to their native places. But the Central Government has not, so far taken any action on it. On the other hand, it has been taking steps now and then to provide technological training to Sri Lankan army personnel in Tamil Nadu.

After I voiced my strong condemnation over this anti-Tamil action of the Central Government, it shifted the Sri Lankan army personnel to another State and continued to provide training to them.

On learning recently that two Sri Lankan army men were being trained at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Tamil Nadu, I insisted that they should be sent back to Sri Lanka immediately. The whole Tamil Nadu demanded the same. But the Central Government did not care for these feelings even a wee bit. On the contrary, a Central Minister stated that such trainings would not be stopped, hurting, thereby, the sentiments of Tamils.

In this situation, the Central Government has permitted Sri Lankan Football team to come to Tamil Nadu and play friendly matches for improving their talents in the game. This action of the Central Government is an insult to Tamils. I strongly condemn the Central Government's actions.

As per my information, the management of the Royal College of Colombo got in touch with an official of the Reserve Bank of India at Chennai and requested him to arrange friendly football matches with the teams in Chennai so that Sri Lankan football players could get trained in the game. The Reserve Bank officials arranged for the match and the Sri Lankan team which came to Tamil Nadu on 30.8.2012, played a match with the Customs Department team, Chennai at the Nehru studium, the next day.

When I came to know of this, I ordered a full-fledged enquiry. The enquiry revealed that the Reserve Bank officials had orally sought the permission of the Stadium Officer for playing the friendly match at the Nehru Stadium and the Stadium Officer granted the permission orally.

The Stadium officer has no power to permit playing of matches at the Nehru Stadium. Only Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority has got that power. The Stadium officer has disparaged the sentiments of Tamil Nadu people by permitting the Sri Lankan players to play in the Nehru Stadium, exercising his non-existent powers.

Hence, I instructed the Chief Secretary to suspend this officer and initiate departmental action against him. Also, I have ordered that no matches be conducted in Tamil Nadu for the Sri Lankan football team. I have also ordered that steps be taken to send back the Sri Lankan football team to its Country.

Likewise, I have ordered that eight students of the Hilburn International School, Rathinapura, Sri Lanka who have come to Chennai to play a football match with the Velammal Higher Secondary School and their trainer be sent back to Sri Lanka.

Awards for farmers recording high production

By way of ushering in a Second Green Revolution, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking steps to realise a high target in foodgrain production, increase productivity by adopting modern technology and to encourage farmers who have set records in the harvest of paddy, pulses and millets.

In that respect, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has already directed that the agriculturist who has achieved a record production at the State level by adopting the System of Rice Intensification Technology, be honoured on the Republic Day with a special prize of Rs. 5 lakhs and a medallion worth Rs. 3,500/-.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the institution of three prizes to farmers who achieve the maximum production, through modern technology, in rain-fed paddy, millets and pulse crops.

The first prize carries a cash award of Rs.50,000/-, the second prize Rs.25,000/- and the third prize Rs.10,000/-. The crops for which the prizes will be given are paddy (rain fed), Jowar (rain fed and irrigated), Ragi (rain fed and irrigated), Saamai (rain fed), Toor (rain fed and irrigated) green pulse (rain fed and irrigated) and Urad (rain fed and irrigated). The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs.11.40 lakhs towards distribution of these prizes. Through this, 36 agriculturists in the State will be honoured.

Through the institution of these prizes an awareness and competitiveness will be promoted among farmers to increase the productivity in paddy (rain fed), millets and pulses through application of modern technology, paving the way for higher production.

Show more consideration and regard for the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu by sending the Defence personnel back to Sri Lanka immediately

Text of the D.O. letter dated 28.8.2012 addressed by
Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to
Dr.Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"As you are aware, in my letter dated 25.8.2012, I had categorically stated that the on-going training being given to the two Defence personnel of Sri Lanka, named in my letter, at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Tamil Nadu, should be immediately halted and the personnel sent back to Sri Lanka. Instead of acceding to my request, I am surprised to learn that the Government of India has openly declared that the said training will go on since Sri Lanka is a friendly country. This betrays the total insensitivity on the part of the Government of India towards the views of my Government as well as the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu.

I once again reiterate that the Government of India should give up such a condemnable attitude and show more consideration and regard for the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu by sending the Defence personnel back to Sri Lanka immediately."

Common Facility Centres to promote Micro, Small and Medium industries

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa is taking keen interest in the development of Micro and Small industries which play an important role in the economic growth of the Country and remain as the cradle for industrial entrepreneurs' development.

Under the small industries cluster development scheme with Central Government's participation, several schemes are implemented to improve production and competitiveness in these industries.

For setting up common facility centres to two such industrial clusters and one rice mill cluster, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered the release of Rs. 1,65,53,000/-.

The fund represents 70 percent of the State's share in the cost of the Facility Centres and forms the first instalment. The Centres are to come up for the industrial cluster at Hosur in Kirishnagiri district, for another industrial cluster at Ranipet in Vellore district and for the rice mill cluster at Keezhapaavur in Tirunelveli district. The Hosur centre is to be set up at a cost of Rs. 6,90,90,000/- of which the State's share is Rs. 70,75,000/- and 70 percent of it comes to Rs. 49,53,000/- for the Ranipet centre, the cost is Rs. 9,27,08,000/-, the State's share Rs. 97.21 lakhs and 70 percent of it, comes to Rs. 68 lakhs. The Keezhapaavur Centre cost is Rs. 6,90,58,000/-, State's share Rs. 69.05 lakhs and 70 percent of it, working out to Rs. 48 lakhs.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of a Training complex for the Entrepreneurs Development Institute with the view of equipping the small scale industries entrepreneurs to the needs of the growing technological development. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has allotted Rs. 4.88 crores for the Training Complex which will have all facilities like class rooms, auditorium, library, computer centre and hostel. Of this allotment, Rs. 3.80 crores will be spent for constructing the academic and administrative block and Rs. 1.08 crores for the hostel block.

These steps of the Government will pave way for the establishment of Micro, Small, and Medium industries in a larger scale.

New loans by TIIC at 3 percent "rebate" in interest for Micro, Small and Medium industries

Industrial growth is the basis for economic development and for the growth of employment opportunities. Maha Kavi Bharathiar, who thundered "we will produce weapons, paper and set up factories", said we would willingly do all industrial works found around the world.

Since industrial growth is essential for the economic development, the Government headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking several steps to provide all facilities for industrial growth.

To encourage industrial entrepreneurs and assist them with finance, the Government set up in 1949, a finance company under the name Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation. By extending assistance of more than Rs. 8600 crores, the institution has played a great role in the establishment of more than one lakh industries. By way of encouraging the first generation industrial entrepreneurs who are unable to get bank loans, this institution is extending industrial investment loans.

To help the growth of micro, small and medium industries, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the issue of new loans by the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TIIC), in the current year with a "rebate" of 3 percent in the interest rates. The Corporation, at the end of the year can claim reimbursement upto Rs.25 crores, given in such "rebates". This scheme will be extended to the second year after reviewing the performance in the first year. Moreover, the entrepreneurs who benefit under this scheme can enjoy the several other subsidy/incentives extended by the State/ Central Governments.

Since loans are offered at a low interest rate, the industrial establishments in Tamil Nadu can start industries at a low cost and enlarge their financial base. Through this measure, micro, small and medium industries will benefit. It will also pave the way for industrial development, additional employment opportunities and an integrated economic development in Tamil Nadu. ❖

Parents' income ceiling doubled for educational assistance for Adi dravidar and Tribal students for higher education

With the view that all sections of people should get all prosperity without any disparity, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has framed policies and executing plans for creation of conditions for the economic upliftment of the socially and economically backward Adi dravidars, Tribals and Adi dravidars converted to Christianity.

In that respect, and by way of a further incentive for the students of Adi dravidars, Tribals and Adi dravidars converted to Christianity to take to higher education, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that the eligibility ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh as the annual income of parents/ guardians be enhanced to Rs. 2 lakhs for grant of educational concession to these students, studying over and above the 10th standard. The new eligibility criterion is to come into force from the current academic year itself that is 2012-2013. This will entail the Government an additional expenditure of Rs. 34,83,750/-. Through this step, the number of students, getting Government educational assistance will increase considerably.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also directed that a recommendation be forwarded to the Central Government for the inclusion of gypsy community, now in the Most Backward Class list, in the tribes category. The gypsies whose livelihood depends on hunting, catching birds and collecting honey, resemble the Tribals both in their qualities and in their socio-economic status.

This will help the gypsy community to achieve socio-economic development.

Hon'ble Chief Minister orders to enhance the prize money for untouchability eradicated villages from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs

The Tamil Nadu Government headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking steps to uproot the evil of untouchability and help people to lead a life of equality without caste, religious and social distinctions and bound by the chain of love.

To eliminate untouchability totally and to achieve the goal of ushering in a free and harmonious society, 31 villages that suffer no untouchability are selected at the rate of one for each district (excepting Chennai) and a cash award of Rs. 2 lakhs each is given.

To select the village, a committee is set up in each district, headed by the respective District Collector and consisting of Planning officer (District Rural Development Agency), District Revenue officer, District Adi dravidar Welfare officer, and District Backward Class Welfare officer as members.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has enhanced the prize amount of Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs so as to achieve early total eradication of untouchability in the State.

Accordingly a prize amount of Rs. 3.10 crores will be distributed to 31 villages at the rate of Rs. 10 lakhs per each village.

The criteria for the selection of these villages will be:-

1. The local Adi dravidar people should have free access to the common temple, drinking water well, shops, hotels, tanks, lakes and saloons.

2. The entire village committed to the policy of eradication of untouchability.

3. No hindrance for drawing water from private wells.

4. Other communities should have let their houses for rent to Adi dravidar people.

5. Members of all communities should have participated in community lunch during festivals.

6. Other community people should have invited the Adi dravidars to their functions.

7. The village should have a history of harmonious living for several years.

With this prize money, the concerned village can undertake development activities such as providing drinking water facility, road development, renovating school buildings, construction of buildings for school and children welfare centre, erecting new lamp posts and other works decided upon by the Village Panchayat that benefits all sections of the people. ●

TRAINING CENTRES FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

AT SALEM, TIRUCHY AND MADURAI

As the Government employees are the link between the Government and the people, the Tamil Nadu Government headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking several steps to train them adequately, so that they can take the Government plans and programmes to the people in an effective way.

In that spirit, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has already announced that Rs. 35 crores would be allotted to convert the Government Employees Training Institute at Bhavanisagar into an ultra-modern training institute.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the formation of Zonal Training Centres at Salem, Tiruchirapalli and Madurai and their functioning under the aegis of the Director of Anna Institute of Management, Chennai. The Anna Institute of Management has been training employees of State and Central Governments, State Government undertakings and other State Governments in General Administration, Disaster Management, Communication and Technology, e-Governance, Behavioural Science, Right to Information Act 2005, Quality management, Project management, and enhancement of Governance.

The creation of these Zonal Centres will help Government employees to get trained at places nearer to their places of work.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered for the creation of 24 posts at the rate of 8 posts per centre - a Teacher, a Junior Administrative officer, (at the grade of Tahsildar), an Assistant, an Accountant, a Junior Assistant and Computer Operator, a driver and an Office Assistant. The creation of new posts will cost the Government Rs. 2.46 crores.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also allotted Rs. 1.60 crores for improving infrastructure facilities at the Chennai Anna Institute of Management.

These steps of the Government will help provide quality training to Government employees and thereby improve their efficiency. ■

Quality Medical Care

to the poor affected with cancer

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated on 11.1.2012 the 'Hon'ble Chief Minister's Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme' to benefit the poor and the downtrodden and generally to ensure health to all. The insurance cover, under the scheme, will be Rs. 4 lakhs per family for 4 years at the rate of Rs. one lakh per year. In respect of certain treatment the cover goes upto Rs. 1.50 lakhs.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister who is greatly interested in the welfare of farmers and agricultural labourers, has ordered the extension of the insurance scheme to those who have registered themselves under the 'Hon'ble Chief Minister's Farmers Protection scheme'. This will help agriculturists to get quality medical facilities.

As it is imperative to give quality medical service to the poor afflicted with cancer, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned Rs. 2.61 crores for upgrading the cobalt machines by replacing the components in them at the Government Hospital in Thanjavur, Coimbatore and Tirunelveli. The replacements will increase the capacity of these machines.

A cancer section was started at the Royapettah hospital, Chennai in 1978. Specialised treatment is being given in this section to people from all strata of society. This section is to be upgraded into a Cancer Speciality Treatment Centre. The construction of a new building at a cost of Rs. 17 crores for this purpose is nearing completion.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned Rs. 9,93,25,650/- for this upgraded centre viz., Rs. 6,40,06,050/- for purchase of new machineries, medical equipments, wooden articles, linen and computers and Rs. 3,53,19,600/- for creation of 83 medical and non-medical posts to serve this centre. ●

Steps to generate power expeditiously in the new power projects

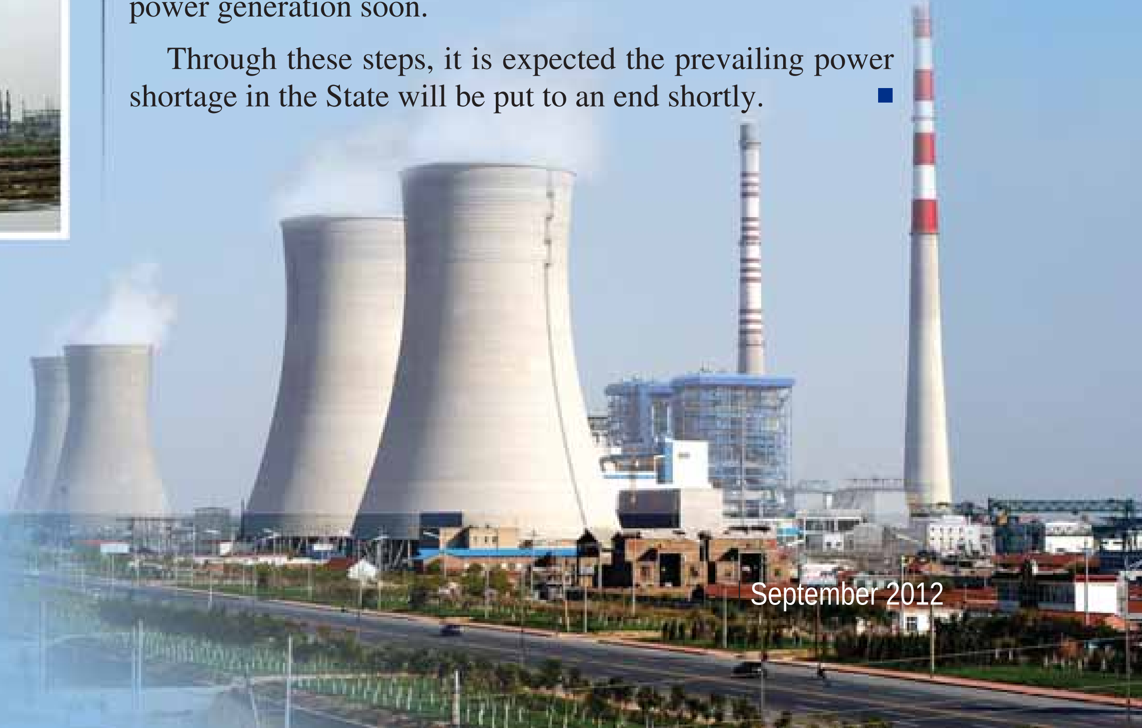
A detailed review meeting was held on 23.8.2012 at the Secretariat over the on-going new Power Projects designed to end the present power shortage in the State. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa presided over the meeting.

Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Energy Department, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and other high officials of the Government participated.

The meeting discussed in detail the progress achieved in the 3 units of the 500 MW Vallur Thermal Power Project, jointly executed by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and the National Thermal Power Corporation, in the 600 MW Mettur Thermal Power Project and in the two units of the 600 MW North Madras Thermal Power Project.It also discussed in general the power situation in the state.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that work on the Vallur, Mettur and North Madras Thermal Power Projects be expedited and directed the officials of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to take necessary steps for commencing power generation soon.

Through these steps, it is expected the prevailing power shortage in the State will be put to an end shortly. ■



HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER ORDERS CONVERSION OF THE CAUSE WAY ACROSS AMARAVATHY INTO A REGULAR BRIDGE

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa's Government has been taking necessary steps to improve the road infrastructure, which is essential for the development of the Country's economy through industrialisation.

In that way, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the conversion of the shutter two way bridge being executed by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board across Cauvery at Odappali near Pallipalayam between the districts of Namakkal and Erode, into a road bridge. The bridge will be widened to 7.5 metres from 4.5 metres and will be so designed as to take on heavy vehicle traffic and avert traffic congestion. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also ordered that the share amount to be disbursed through the Highways Department to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board be increased to Rs. 7.90 crores from Rs. 6 crores.

Likewise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the development of the 1.8 metre long Jawan Bhavan – Kammiampettai road in Cuddalore town now under the control of PWD into a 7 metre wide black topped road at a cost of Rs. 1.30 crores. This work will be executed by the Highways Department as deposit work. The development of the road will expedite the implementation of the underground drainage laying work, now delayed by traffic congestion in the town.

Besides these, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has also ordered the development of the damaged causeway across Amaravathi river near Pasupathipalayam in Karur District connecting the Karur – Wangal road and Nagapattinam – Gudalur – Mysore road and into a new regular river bridge at a cost of Rs. 12.50 crores. This improvement work will reduce the traffic congestion in Karur town and avert accidents.

Through these measures, not only road traffic will be improved but traffic congestion will be eradicated, facilitating speedy travel without any hindrance.

Exgratia payment to the families of persons died in the blast at fireworks factory

Magisterial inquiry to find the cause of the accident

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 6.9.2012 (English Translation)

I announced an exgratia payment of Rs. 2 lakhs to each of the families of 38 persons who died yesterday (5.9.2012) in the blast at a private fireworks factory at Muthalippatti village in Virudhunagar Taluk, Virudhunagar District and Rs. 25,000/- each to those who sustained severe burns and Rs. 10,000/- each to those who sustained injuries. I also despatched Senior Ministers to console the affected families in person and instructed the district administration and hospital authorities to provide the best of medical treatment to the 55 in-patients in the hospital.

A meeting, with myself in the chair, was held today to consider precautionary measures to be taken to avert such incidents,

in future. Hon'ble Minister for Public Health, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Principal Secretary, Public Health and Family Welfare Department and other high officials participated.

The Chief Controller of Explosives, Nagpur issued the licence in 2006 for the above said factory. The Zonal Director of the Explosives Control Department at Sivakasi, who inspected the factory on August 28, 2012 cancelled the licence given to the factory on 4.9.2012, citing the non-compliance of several rules like stocking chemicals in huge quantities, employing more number of persons and encroachments in the areas to be left out as safety zones. A copy of this order was received by the District Collector on the evening of 5.9.2012. Following decisions were taken after a detailed discussion on this accident.

1. I have ordered the District Revenue Officer to conduct a magisterial inquiry on how the fire works factory continue to carry on its work on 5.9.2012 when its licence had been cancelled on 4.9.2012, and the reasons for the accident and send a report to the Government.

2. My Government had already allotted Rs. 1.13 crores for upgrading the Burns Unit at the Sivakasi Government Hospital. By way of further strengthening the unit, steps will be taken to set up an intensive treatment section, an operation theatre, plastic surgery unit, orthopaedic unit, physiotherapy and a convalescence unit, and increase the present bed strength of 30 by 30 more beds. Steps will also be taken to upgrade the Burns Unit into a Centre of Excellence and bring under the Control of the Madurai Medical College Hospital. It was decided to allot Rs. 4.50 crores for this.

3. To avert such tragic incidents in future, I have directed the Virudhunagar District Collector to inspect all the Fire Works factories in the district and take appropriate action.

"My Government will nurture a culture of responsive and transparent Governance that ensures progress, security, and equal opportunity to all stakeholders. The Government's role will focus on planning, effective regulation and facilitation, while the Private Sector would be welcomed more and more in the area of service delivery. My Government will fully reap the benefits of the use of Information and Communication Technology in Government with an ambitious e-Governance policy."

- Selvi J Jayalalithaa

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Distribution of Rs. 2 lakhs each to the families of the dead Rs. 25,000 each to 45 persons injured as ordered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister

Hon'ble Ministers handed over the solatium in person

Thirty eight persons died in an unexpected blast that occurred at a private fireworks factory at Muthalippatti, Virudhunagar District on 5.9.2012 while explosives were being filled up. More than 55 persons sustained severe burns and were admitted to intensive care units of Government Hospitals in Sivakasi, Virudhunagar and Madurai.

On Learning about the blast, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa expressed deep condolences and sympathies to the bereaved families of the deceased and directed the medical officials to provide quality treatment to the injured. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also directed that a solatium of Rs. 2 lakhs

each be given from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund to the families of the dead, Rs. 25,000/- each to those injured and Rs. 10,000/- each to those who sustained ordinary injuries.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister deputed a team of Ministers under the leadership of Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru. O. Panneerselvam, viz. the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition & Excise, Thiru. Natham R. Viswanathan; the Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development Thiru. K.P. Munuswamy; the Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development Thiru. R. Vaithilingam; the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Special Programmes Implementation Thiru. K.T. Rajenthrabalaji and the Hon'ble Minister for Labour Thiru S.T. Chellapandian to meet the families of the deceased in the accident and the other injured who are admitted in the hospitals and console them. The team of ministers visited the hospitals at Sivakasi, Virudhunagar and Madurai and consoled the patients.

As per the direction of the Hon'ble Chief Minister the team of Ministers, headed by Hon'ble Finance Minister Thiru. O. Panneerselvam today (6.9.2012) distributed the solatium of Rs. 2 lakhs each to the families of the 38 persons who had died in the accident and also the Hon'ble Chief Minister's condolences. They also distributed Rs. 25,000/- each to the 45 persons, who sustained severe burns and are undergoing treatment in hospitals at Sivakasi, Virudhunagar and Madurai.

New buildings for 268 Government High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools at a cost of Rs.169.44 crores

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa declared open on 5.9.2012 through video conferencing at the Secretariat newly constructed buildings for 268 Government High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools. The new ones, included school buildings, laboratories and office buildings.

The Government headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been implementing countless schemes for the student community with the noble perspective that the country will get lifted up if the student community is given enough opportunities and facilities and encouraged to study.

With this view, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open through video conferencing new buildings constructed at a cost of Rs. 169.44 crores for 268 Government High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools. These buildings are:- 11 school buildings in Salem District (Rs. 10,37,03,000/-), 7 school buildings in Erode District (Rs. 4,88,52,000/-), 24 school buildings in Vellore District (Rs. 5,65,67,000/-), 7 school buildings in Krishnagiri District (Rs. 3,08,14,000/-), 2 school buildings in Ariyalur District (Rs. 1,64,13,000/-), 3 school buildings in Theni District (Rs. 1,48,00,000/-) 2 school and office buildings in Nagapattinam District (Rs. 1,70,77,000/-), one school building in The Nilgris District (Rs. 1,23,28,000/-), 3 school buildings in Thoothukudi District (Rs. 2,02,61,000/-), 5 school buildings in Coimbatore District (Rs. 4,68,76,000/-), 3 school buildings in Sivagangai District (Rs. 1,82,73,000/-), 5 school and office buildings in Dharmapuri District (Rs. 5,09,65,000/-), 14 school buildings in Kancheepuram District (Rs. 11,96,79,000/-), 3 school buildings in Namakkal District

(Rs. 1,71,49,000/-), 12 school buildings in Cuddalore District (Rs. 10,43,17,000/-), 36 school buildings in Thiruvannamalai District (Rs. 24,65,00,000/-), 16 school buildings in Pudukottai District (Rs. 12,95,05,000/-), 8 school buildings in Madurai District (Rs. 4,21,63,000/-), 17 school buildings in Karur District (Rs. 15,00,08,000/-), 6 school buildings in Kanniyakumari District (Rs. 62,65,000), 10 school buildings in Villupuram District (Rs. 7,69,66,000/-), 7 school buildings in Tirunelveli District (Rs. 4,15,35,000/-), 22 school buildings in Virudunagar District (Rs. 17,36,02,000/-), 2 school buildings in Tiruppur District (Rs. 10,07,79,000/-), 6 school buildings in Thiruvallur District (Rs. 3,12,74,000/-), 17 school buildings in Tiruchy District (Rs. 9,23,86,000/-), 7 school and office buildings in Perambalur District (Rs. 45,73,000/-), 2 school buildings in Chennai District (Rs.30,00,000/-), 2 school buildings in Ramanathapuram District (Rs. 15,00,000/-), 2 school buildings in Thiruvarur District (Rs. 10,00,000/-) and 6 school buildings in Dindigul District (Rs. 50,00,000/-).

Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Sports and Youth Welfare, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, School Education Department and other high officials participated. ❖

141st Birth Anniversary of Kappalottiya Thamizhan V.O. Chidambaranar

Hon'ble Ministers, the Worshipful Mayor of Chennai and public paid floral tributes to the portrait of Kappalottiya Thamizhan V.O. Chidambaranar kept near his statue at Rajaji Salai, Chennai to mark his 141st birth anniversary on 5.9.2012. The Director of Information and Public Relations, Deputy Chairman of the Chennai Port Trust and other officials were present during the occasion.

Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes Petrol driven scooters fitted with extra wheels to the differently abled students

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa distributed at the Secretariat on 5.9.2012, petrol driven scooters at no cost fitted with extra wheels to the differently abled students and self employed persons. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented cash awards to the students of the Tamil Medium stream in the Government and aided special schools who have scored first three ranks at the State level in the Public Examinations for the 10th and 12th standards held in the academic year 2011-2012 and congratulated them on their achievement.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister had already ordered, while reviewing the schemes implemented by the Department of Differently abled Persons, that the battery-operated extra wheel fitted vehicles given at no cost to the differently abled students and self-employed be replaced with petrol fuelled such vehicles. For this, Rs. 2 crores were also allotted. Accordingly, 61 differently abled students and self-employed were presented with the petrol driven scooters with extra wheel fittings.

The following State-level Tamil Medium rank-holders among the differently abled received the cash prizes from the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Among the differently abled deaf student, who took the 12th standard Public Examination D. Ranjith came first at the State level, R. Gautham, the second rank and K. Nandini, the third rank.

Among the differently abled, visually challenged students, the first 3 ranks

were scored by K. Sruthi, L. Ramprasad and V. Muthusaravanan respectively.

They were given cash prizes of Rs. 50,000/- (1st rank) Rs. 30,000/- (2nd rank) and Rs. 20,000/- (3rd rank) respectively.

The rank holders in the 10th standard Public Examinations from among the differently abled deaf students are K. Vijay (1st rank), P.P. Naveen (2nd rank) and R. Vinodhapriyan (3rd rank).

From among the differently abled visually challenged students, S. Mukesh (1st rank), M. Bhavani (2nd rank) and R. Raji (3rd rank).

They received a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- (1st rank) Rs. 20,000/- (2nd rank) and Rs. 15,000/- (3rd rank) respectively.

The recipients of petrol scooters and the recipients of cash awards thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

❖

Education Management Information System to benefit Schools, Teachers and Students

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated the Education Management Information System of the Department of School Education, at Secretariat, Chennai on 5.9.2012. It is a pioneering effort in the whole country. The system consisting of common Web Portal, Education content server, SMS based Attendance Monitoring System and Intra Departmental Communication Services System, has been so designed as to benefit schools, teachers and students.

In the Common Web Portal (www.tnschools.gov.in), the design of Primary, High and Higher Secondary Schools, their locations, building facilities and the like will be uploaded. Details about the headmasters, teachers, the non-teaching staff in these schools, their names, jobs, their joining and retiring dates will all be fully uploaded. The number of students studying in these schools, drop-outs and those promoted also will be uploaded. Each student will be given a grade number and the status of the student will be monitored every year.

In the first phase, details about the Government Higher Secondary Schools at Thiruchendurai, Ayilaapettai, Ettarai, Somarsampettai and Inamkulathur in Srirangam Assembly Constituency in Tiruchirapalli District have been collected and uploaded in the portal www.tnschools.gov.in. Details about all Government schools in the State, aided schools and self-financing schools will be added on later in this portal. On-line information about these schools can be had from this portal.

The Education Management Information System has two other new portals www.ecs.tnschools.gov.in and www.admin.tnschools.gov.in. The first one forms a part of the several steps, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, has been taking for giving quality education to students. This portal will provide educational texts so that students can be taught their lessons in a simple and enchanting way.

The second portal is to facilitate intra-department and inter-departmental exchange of information.

Hon'ble Minister for School Education Sports and Youth Welfare, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, School Education Department and high officials participated. ❖

Special Homes for aged and destitute children in 64 Taluks

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated integrated campuses comprising special homes for the aged and destitute children set up at a cost of Rs.1.76 crores in 64 Taluks in 32 districts, through video conferencing at Secretariat, Chennai on 5.9.2012.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister had already announced that such campuses would be set up, at 64 places, in two Taluks of each district. The noble idea behind the scheme is that not only the requirements of the aged, like shelter, food and medical and recreation facilities would be met in these campuses but the aged people and the destitute children staying there, could interact and exchange love and affection and they could extend patronage to each other. This is an unique scheme in that it fulfils the psychological needs of the senior citizens and the destitute children. Under this scheme, aged persons who are differently abled also could stay in these homes.

For the implementation of the scheme, the Government has sanctioned Rs. 1.76 crores at the rate of Rs. 1.50 lakhs for each children home and Rs. 1.25 lakhs for each of the homes for the aged in the 64 campuses. From out of these funds, household articles needed for these homes, computers, TV sets books and indoor game implements, could be purchased.

The Government has also given its consent for making over to each of these campuses Rs. 18.40 lakhs annually, the amount being shared between Government and voluntary organisations at the ratio of 75:25. Each of the campus will shelter 25 destitute children and 25 senior citizens. The 64 campuses inaugurated on 5.9.2012 are the first phase of the scheme.

Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department and other high officials participated. ❖

INDOOR STADIA WITH FLOOD LIGHTS IN 5 DISTRICTS AT A COST OF Rs.7.50 CRORES

Sports Department plays a great role in evolving healthy human resources for the future. Education develops one's intellectual capacities; sports, at the same time, protects one's physical health. Hence education and sports are the two eyes of an individual. So the Government headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking several steps to encourage sports capabilities among the rural and urban youth.

The Government is implementing countless schemes such as opening sports hostels, organizing daily coaching programmes for giving complete training to sports personnel, laying sports grounds at international standards to facilitate participation of sports persons in international sports events, providing incentives for sportspersons to participate in international competitions and setting up indoor stadia.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has already ordered the setting up of indoor stadia in 20 districts at a cost of Rs. 30 crores to facilitate the youth in the districts to get training and for conducting sports events. In the first phase, the stadia will come up in 5 places-at Srirangam, Coimbatore, Villupuram, Kancheepuram and Ariyalur – at a cost of Rs. 1.50 crores each.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the setting up of stadia at Nagercoil, Thoothukudi, Thanjavur, Dindigul and Madurai 5 districts in the current year (2012-2013) in the second phase, at a cost of Rs. 1.50 crores each. The stadia will have facilities that included visitors' galleries, wooden flooring and flood lighting.

These steps will help identify enthusiasts in games in Tamil Nadu and pave way for greater participation of sports personnel from the state in international and national events. ❖

18 modern godowns and 50 cold storage godowns to store agricultural produce

Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking several constructive actions to encourage agriculture, the noble profession that removes the hunger of the people, and to improve the livelihood of farmers.

In that way the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of 18 modern godowns and 50 cold storage godowns at a cost of Rs. 37.50 crores so that farmers can keep their produce safely and sell them when the market rules high and get the fruits of their labour fully. The godowns will have all facilities such as weighing machines, weighbridges and moisture measuring instruments. A majority of small and marginal farmers in Tamil Nadu sell their produce immediately

after harvest at whatever price that is offered since they cannot keep their goods for long and are anxious to repay their crop loans. Hence the farmers suffer from the absence of a good price for their produce.

These 18 modern godowns will have a storing capacity of 2000 tonnes each and will be set up at a cost of Rs. 1.20 crores each. They will be set up at Arani and Thesur regulated markets belonging to Tirvannamalai sales committee, Vellakovil, Alangium and Moolanur regulated markets belonging to Erode sales committee, Kalavai Regulated market of Vellore sales committee, Avalurpettai and Thindivanam Regulated markets (Villupuram sales committee), Kuthalam Regulated market (Nagapattinam sales committee), Devakottai Regulated market (Ramanathapuram sales committee), Senjeri and Aanaimalai Regulated markets (Coimbatore sales committee), Oothangarai Regulated market (Dharmapuri sales committee), Chinnamanoor Regulated market (Theni sales committee), Mannargudi Regulated market (Thiruvarur sales committee), Perambalur Regulated market (Tiruchy sales committee), Kattumannarkovil and Kurinjipadi Regulated markets (Cuddalore sales committee).

The cold storage godowns will have a capacity of 25 tonnes each and will be set up at a cost of Rs. 31.80 lakhs (Total cost Rs. 15.90 crores). They will come up at the Regulated markets of Chengam, Polur and Thiruvannamalai (Thiruvannamalai sales committee), Cuddalore sales centre (Cuddalore Committee), Sathiamangalam, Kodumudi, Anthiyur and Poonjampuliampatti Regulated markets (Erode), Vellore, Tirupathur and Vaniyambadi Regulated markets (Vellore), Perambalur and Karur Regulated markets (Tiruchy), Senjeri, Aanaimalai, Avinasi, Annoor, Thondamuthur and Udumalpet Regulated markets (Coimbatore), Villupuram and Ulundurpet Regulated markets (Villupuram), Arur, Pennagaram, Pochampalli and Oothankarai Regulated markets (Dharmapuri), Rajapalayam, Aruppukottai, Singampuneri and Kamuthi Regulated markets (Ramanathapuram), Athur, Namagiripettai, Thiruchengode, Paramathivelur, Gengavalli and Salem Regulated markets (Salem), Palani, Dindigul and Gopalpatti Regulated markets (Dindigul), Monday Shandy Regulated market (Kanniyakumari), Thanjavur Regulated market (Thanjavur), Theni and Kambam Regulated markets (Theni), Thirumangalam Regulated market (Madurai), Thoothukudi, Thirunelveli, Valliyur, Kovilpatti, Ettayapuram and Thenkasi Regulated markets (Thirunelveli), and Alangudi Regulated market (Pudukottai).

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the launching of a 'National Food Processing

Movement' from 2012-2013. The movement will aim at increasing food production so as to underscore the importance of food processing and improving the farmers' income, assisting State Government agricultural plans and food processing industry, increasing the demand for agricultural produce by reducing the gap between the State Government Institutions and value added infrastructure, providing training to entrepreneurs in post-harvest technology management and in food processing trades and thereby improving their efficiency and assisting the processing units in complying with the statutory standards set for the local and foreign markets, for marketing their goods.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also passed orders for the Agriculture sale and Agriculture commercial Department to function as the State co-ordinating Agency for implementing the schemes of this movement in Tamil Nadu and for the appointment of commissioner of that Department to function as the Director of the movement.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned Rs. 37.50 lakhs, the State Government's share of the Rs. 1.50 crores that will be spent on strengthening the administration of the movement, preparing long-term plans and on creating awareness among the public about this movement.

To implement the schemes of this movement, State and District level committees, State-level empowered committee, plan scrutiny committee, Plan Sanctioning Committee and Food Processing Movement Committee will be set up. ❖

Koodankulam
Nuclear Power Plant poses no threat to fishermen's livelihood

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 10.9.2012 (English Translation)

Following doubts raised by the local people over the safety of the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tirunelveli District when work on the installation of two units of the plant each with a capacity of 1,000 MW was largely over, I requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister through a letter on 19.9.2011 not to proceed with the Nuclear Power Plant work till the local people's fears are removed and sought an appointment with him to present a memorandum in this regard.

In continuation of this, the protesters to the Nuclear Power Plant who were on a hunger strike, met me at the Secretariat on 21.9.2011 and urged that the Tamil Nadu cabinet should pass a resolution at its meeting demanding the suspension of the Nuclear Power Plant work till the fears of the Koodankulam people were addressed.

Accepting their request, a resolution was passed at the cabinet meeting held on 22.9.2011.

As a next step, a team led by the Hon'ble Minister for Finance met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 7.10.2011 and presented a petition that explained the ground realities. The Hon'ble Prime Minister received the petition and announced that a joint team with the representatives of Central and State Governments and those of the protesters will be set up. The Central Government, accordingly, set up a 15 member expert committee. This committee held its discussions for 3 days with the three representatives of the protesters and with the State Government representatives. A final round of talks were held on 31.1.2012. In this final round of talks, only one representative participated on behalf of the protesters. In these talks, the Central Government expert committee, not only answered several questions raised by the protesters, but presented two reports stating the Nuclear Power Plant was safe and there was no need to fear about the safety of the plant.

Following this, the State Government also constituted an expert committee to study and submit a report about the safety of the Nuclear Power Plant and about the fears that prevailed among the people there. This committee too vouchsafed the safety of the plant and also recommended implementation of socio-economic programmes to raise the local people's standard of living in this region.

On the basis of the committee's report, a resolution was passed at the Tamil Nadu cabinet meeting held on 19.3.2012 urged that steps to activate the Nuclear Power Plant forthwith be taken up and for allotting Rs.500 crores for the development of the local people. Following this, work on the Nuclear Power Plant proceeded fast.

Thereafter, the protesters filed a case in the Madras High Court. The Court passed orders permitting the Nuclear Power Plant to go ahead with its works. After the court's order, it will not be proper to make any attempt to stop the functioning of the Nuclear Power Plant.

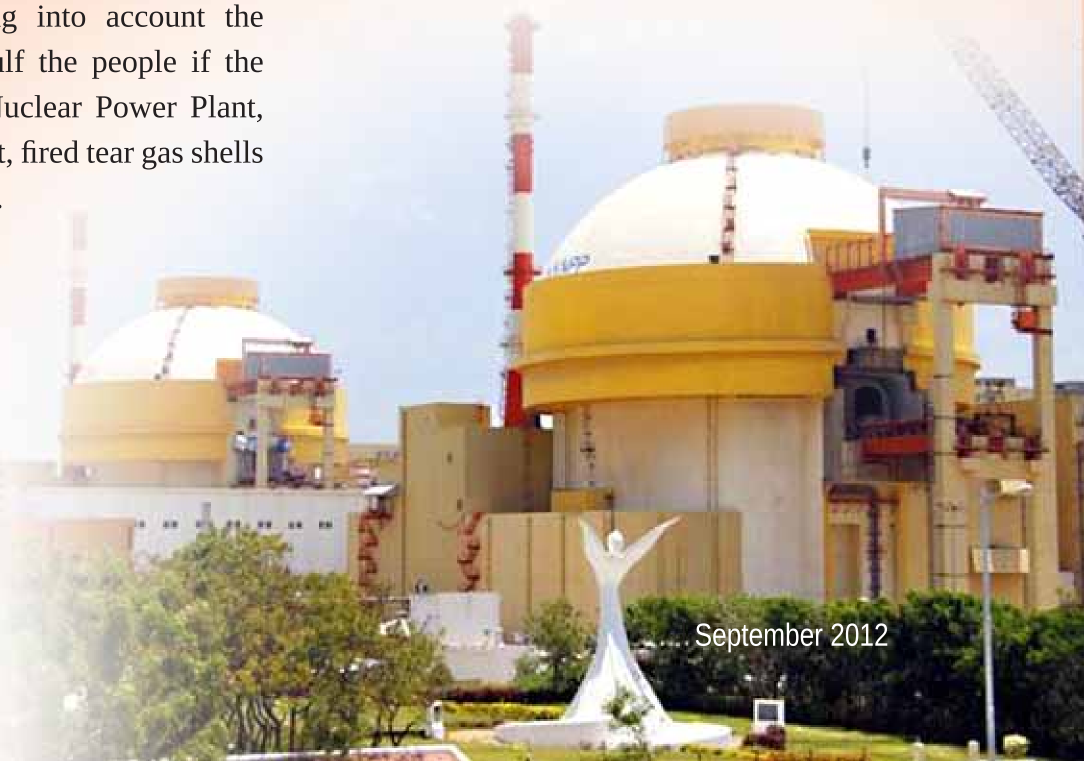
In these circumstances, taking into account that fuel rods are about to be uploaded in the Nuclear Power Plant, people from Idinthakarai had planned to launch an agitation. On learning this, the police undertook security measures at the approach roads of the plant, namely Thomas Mandapam Vairavi Kinaru. But the protesters averted these two roads and organised an agitation, some 500 metres away from the plant by coming to the spot through the sea on 9.9.2012. Police prevented the protesters from proceeding towards the plant. The District Collector and the Superintendent of Police, Tirunelveli District asked the protesters to disperse, citing the promulgation of the ban order under sec. 144. But the agitators played hide and seek dispersing now and re-assembling thereafter and this continued throughout yester night. This morning the agitators number swelled. They attempted to march towards the Nuclear Power Plant.

Around 11.30 AM today, they started attacking the police with logs. Some Policemen were injured in this assault. In self defence and in order to protect the Nuclear Power Plant and taking into account the danger that would engulf the people if the agitators attacked the Nuclear Power Plant, the Police, as a last resort, fired tear gas shells and dispersed the crowd.

As the Nuclear Power Plant posed no threat to the livelihood of fishermen, I request the fishermen in that region not to walk into the magic trap laid by protesters whose policy, it is, to oppose Nuclear Power Plants.

Also I appeal to the protesters of Nuclear Power Plants not to participate in the agitations against Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant which is very safe. They should extend their Co-operation for the early commissioning of the plant.

Over this issue, a temporary check-post at Manapadu, in Thoothukudi District was set on fire by a crowd which also attacked the Police that arrived there. A person died when a Police Constable opened fire in self-defence. I convey my deep condolences and sympathy to the bereaved family. I have ordered that a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs be given to the bereaved family from the Chief Minister's Public Relief fund. I request that there should not be anymore violence over this issue. ❖



Hon'ble Chief Minister flags off 1000 New Buses of Government Transport Corporations in 379 New Routes

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 11.9.2012 inducted at the secretariat 1000 new buses into the fleet of State Transport Corporations and declared open 379 new routes. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented retirement benefits amounting to Rs. 32.88 crores to 1574 retired transport employees.

Transport is the backbone for a country's economic growth. The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporations play an important role in providing an efficient transport service to people. An uninterrupted transport service is being provided to nook and corner including hamlets. The Government Transport Corporations are operating daily 19,828 buses and transporting 2.10 crore people. As per the needs of the people new buses and new routes are introduced. In that way, the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 11.9.2012 inducted 1000 new buses and inaugurated 379 new routes.

The State Government is implementing several schemes to help transport employees and workers to work with enthusiasm and efficiency. The Hon'ble Chief Minister in that way presented retirement benefits to the tune of Rs.32.88 crores to 1574 retired transport employees.

Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Transport Department and other high officials participated. ❖

Hon'ble Chief Minister Inaugurates the scheme of distribution of bi-cycles to 11th standard students

Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa inaugurated the scheme for distribution of bi-cycles for the 11th Standard Students for the academic year 2012-2013 and presented vehicles to them, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 11.9.2012

To encourage women's education, the Chief Minister inaugurated a scheme in 2001-2002 for distribution of bi-cycles to all girl students of 11th & 12th Standards belonging to Adidravidar and Tribal Communities. In 2005-2006, the scheme was extended to cover boy students. Through this scheme, bi-cycles are distributed to all sections of students studying in the 11th standard in Government, Government aided and part Government aided schools and the students benefited a great deal.

In the Academic Year 2011-2012, bi-cycles were distributed to 6,22,168 students; 2,77,788 boys and 3,44,380 girls at a cost of Rs.179.21 crores. In the current Academic Year, bi-cycles are to be distributed similarly to 6,31,279 students; 2,81,861 boys and 3,49,418 girls at a cost of Rs.196.10 crores. Accordingly, the distribution was inaugurated on 11.9.2012 for the 11th Standard Students.

The beneficiaries conveyed their respects and gratitudes to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented cash awards to the first three rank holders at the state level, in the 10th & 12th Standard Public Examinations belonging to the B.C., M.B.C., De-notified and Minority Communities.

Several schemes are implemented for the educational development of students belonging to these communities. Presentation of cash awards to students who have scored high marks in the Public Examinations for the 10th & 12th Standards by way of encouragement, is one of them.

Under this scheme, the cash awards are respectively Rs.50,000/-, Rs.30,000 and Rs.20,000 for the first, second and third rank holders in the Public Examination for the 12th Standard. For the 10th Standard Public Examination rank holders, the cash awards are respectively Rs.25,000/- Rs. 20,000/- and Rs.15,000/- for the first, second and third ranks, for the both boy students and girl students separately.

Ninety three rank holders in the Public Examinations held in 2012 for 10th & 12th standards received the cash awards to the tune of Rs.18.20 lakhs from the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Hon'ble Minister for Adidravidar and Tribal welfare, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Sports and Youth Welfare, Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare, Chief Secretary, Principal, Secretary, School Education dept., Secretary, BC, MBC & Minorities welfare and other officials were present.

Fine Variety Rice sold at cost price in Fair Price Shops; Sale of Toor dal, Urad dal and Palmolein oil at subsidised rates extended upto March 2013

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister
Selvi J Jayalalithaa
on 12.9.2012 (English Translation)

Though price rise in essential commodities depends largely on the economic policies of the Central Government, I have been taking steps to reduce the price so that the poor and the downtrodden in Tamil Nadu are not affected by the inflation.

Immediately after assuming office, I created a price control fund with Rs. 50 crores so that essential commodities could be procured whenever their price rose disproportionately and sold to consumers through "Amudham" and other co-operative outlets at cost price itself. In the past, whenever the price of essential commodities like chillis and tamarind rose, the intervention of the price control fund brought their prices under control in the open market.

Since Karnataka has not released water in the cauvery as per the interim award of the Cauvery Waters Dispute Tribunal, the Kuruvai cultivation has been affected. Following this, the open market price of rice, particularly that of the fine variety has risen. To control this price rise, a meeting was held at the Secretariat on 11.9.2012. I chaired the meeting. Hon'ble Ministers for Finance, Hon'ble Ministers for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Hon'ble Ministers for Municipal Administration and Rural Development, Hon'ble Ministers for Housing and Urban Development, Hon'ble Ministers for Cooperation, Hon'ble Ministers for Food, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary Finance Department, Secretary, Cooperation, Food and Consumer Protection Department and other high officials of the Government participated.

After a detailed discussion, I have directed, the procurement from West Bengal of sorna and IR 36 varieties of rice which are of an equivalent quality as ponni variety in Tamil Nadu and the Fine variety of 'Minikit' which is equivalent to IR – 50 and sell them through the Civil Supplies Corporation's outlet "Amudham" and through other co-operative shops at the cost price of Rs.25/- per kilo for sorna and IR-36 varieties and at Rs.31/- per kilo for the "Minikit" rice.

Under the special Public Distribution Scheme, Toor dal, Urad dal and Palmolein are distributed to family card holders through the fair price shops. The off take of Toor dal, on an average is 14,000 tonnes per month. Of this 2,000 tonnes comes from the central pool with a small subsidy component. The cost price of this Toor dal is Rs.55/- per kilo. However my Government is selling this toor dal at Rs. 30/- per kilo from 30.6.2012. The Central Government has dispensed with this small subsidy also.

The off-take of Urad dal in fair price shops, on an average is 10,000 tonnes per month. There is no central subsidy on this. Still my Government is selling urad dal to family card holders at Rs.30/- per kilo.

As for palmolein, the Central Government is offering it to the State Government at Rs.52.65p for one litre packet though it costs Rs. 66.30p. My Government has given a further subsidy of Rs.27.65p and is selling one litre packet at Rs.25/-.

Taking into account, the inflationary trend is due to the Central Government's economic policies, I have ordered that the present price structure for Toor & Urad dals and Palmolein be maintained for six more months, that is from 1.10.2012 to 31.3.2013 for the card holders drawing their supplies through the fair price shops. The extension of the price structure for six more months will entail the Government Rs.907.08 crores.

This action of my Government will pave way not only for getting the commodities Toor dal, Urad dal and Palmolein at a low price but will control the open market price of essential commodities including rice.

170 New 108 Emergency Ambulances

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa inducted 170 new vans costing Rs. 17.46 crores into the fleet of 108 Emergency Ambulance service and handed over 76 new mortuary vans with freezer facility for the use of public at no cost at Secretariat, Chennai on 11.9.2012. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented 348 new vehicles costing Rs. 19 crores to Primary Health Centres.

The State Government is operating the '108 Emergency Ambulance' service to meet the needs of the people during emergencies. Presently 434 ambulance vans are in service in 32 districts. To further expedite the facility of the service to the poor and down-trodden, 170 new vans were inducted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 11.9.2012.

The Government also operates mortuary van service at no cost in all the 32 districts with a fleet of 62 vehicles. Seventy six more such vans, costing Rs. 7.76 crores, were presented on 11.9.2012.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the working of the Primary Health Centres and ordered that the centres which did not have vehicles be equipped with the facility immediately so that speedy medical service could be provided to the poor and the down trodden. Accordingly 348 new vehicles, purchased at a cost of Rs. 19 crores were presented to the PHCs.

Hon'ble Minister for Health, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare and other officials participated. ❖

Hon'ble Chief Minister declares open new buildings in 6 Government Hospitals

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tami Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa declared open through video conferencing at the secretariat on 11.9.2012 the new building for the special maternity ward at the Pollachi Headquarters Hospital, Coimbatore District, constructed at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open new buildings that will improve the infrastructure facilities in Udumalpet Government Hospital, Tiruppur District; Government Headquarters Hospitals at Kovilpatti and Dindigul; Government Hospital for Women & Children, Egmore, Chennai and in Tirunelveli Government Medical College.

The State Government is taking several steps to strengthen the infrastructure facilities in Government hospitals. The new building at the Pollachi Government Headquarters Hospital will house the special maternity ward with an additional bed strength of 24 and with a modern operation theatre.

New maternity ward buildings with an additional bed strength of 30 and an operation theatre (Rs.1.57 crores) at Udumalpet Government Hospital, Tiruppur District, new buildings for accident and emergency treatment at Kovilpatti Government headquarters hospital (Rs.65 lakhs) and at Dindigul Government Headquarters Hospital (Rs. 80 Lakhs), new buildings on 31,000 sq.ft at the Government Hospital for Women & Children, Egmore, Chennai to provide additional facilities to patients (Rs.5.60 crores), hostel buildings for post graduate medical students in Tirunelveli Government Medical College with 23 rooms in the ground floor and 26 rooms in the first floor (Rs.1.26 crores) total amounting to Rs. 10.63 crores were all declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Hon'ble Minister for Health, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Health and family welfare department and high officials participated. ❖

The entire power to be generated from the First Unit of Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant should be given to Tamil Nadu

Text of the D.O. letter dated 19.8.2012
addressed to **Dr.Manmohan Singh**,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

"I would like to draw your attention to my earlier letters dated 31st March, 2012 and 25th April, 2012, wherein I have sought your assistance for the allocation of the entire power to be generated from the First Unit of 1000 MW capacity in the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant to Tamil Nadu. To my dismay, no response has so far been received from you. I am given to understand that nuclear fuel loading in the First Unit of the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant is to happen within the next few days.

May I take this opportunity to remind you of my earlier request and expect a quick response? I am sure you will appreciate my State's justified demand in this matter and convey a positive response soon." ●

> "Though the waters of an Inter-State river pass through the territories of riparian States such waters cannot be said to be located in any one State. They are in a state of flow and no State can claim exclusive ownership of such waters so as to deprive the other States of their equitable share."
>
> - Hon'ble Chief Minister
> **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**

Tamil Nadu may be exempted from the test and allowed to continue with its existing system for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate dental seats

Text of the D.O. letter addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,**
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Dr. Manmohan Singh,**
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 7.9.2012

It has been brought to my notice that the Dental Council of India has issued a Gazette notification regarding the introduction of a National Eligibility Entrance Test for both BDS and MDS courses. In this context, I would like to record my strong objection to the introduction of these tests for the same reasons for which I had already objected to the introduction of a National Eligibility Test for entrance to undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses in my earlier letter to you dated 30.7.2012.

As already stated, the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken steps since 2005 and finally abolished the Entrance Examination for professional courses from the year 2007-2008. This was done after detailed examination by an Expert Committee that found that such Common Entrance Examinations put rural students and students from lower socio-economic backgrounds at a disadvantage due to lack of geographical and financial access to requisite training institutions and materials.

I had also pointed out that such entrance examinations result in the growth of expensive coaching centres which charge high fees which the poorer students cannot afford. The need for such coaching classes will be specifically felt in the case of a national level examination as the students who pass the 12th standard based on our State syllabi will not face a level playing field as the topics covered for the entrance exam are likely to be based on the NCERT/CBSE curriculum and syllabi.

As part of its policy of upholding social justice, Tamil Nadu has been following 69% reservation for Backward and Most Backward Communities and Scheduled Castes and Tribes in professional courses. The introduction of a National Eligibility Entrance Test would create confusion and litigation in the smooth implementation of this reservation policy both in undergraduate and postgraduate admissions.

The Government of Tamil Nadu therefore strongly protests the move to conduct an All India Common Entrance Test for admission to Under Graduate/Post Graduate Courses in Dental Colleges as proposed by the DCI.

I request that Tamil Nadu may be exempted from the test and allowed to continue with its existing system for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate dental seats. ❖

Green Awards for 12 factories excelled in environmental protection

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tami Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa declared open a new district environmental laboratory constructed at a cost of Rs. 58 lakhs at Maraimalai Nagar, Kancheepuram District on behalf of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, through video conferencing at Secretariat on 11.9.2012.

At present samples from the more than 3000 factories in Kancheepuram District are sent to the upgraded environmental laboratory at Chennai for analysis. On learning that such despatches of samples to the Chennai environmental laboratory imposes strain, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered the setting up of a district laboratory at Maraimalai Nagar, through the State Pollution Control Board at a cost of Rs. 58 lakhs.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also distributed 86 (PM10) instruments purchased at a cost of Rs. 1.28 crores and 5 (PM 2.5) instruments purchased at a cost of Rs. 11.33 lakhs to the Board's laboratories.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also distributed 34 Tablet Computers with Internet facility costing Rs. 3.96 lakhs to District Environment Engineers, a first in the whole country. Through this computer information on the quality of the exhaust gas that emanates from the factories and that of the treated effluents can be obtained then and there. Supervisory work can also be undertaken through the computer.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed Green Awards and Certificates a pioneering incentive to 12 industries for their excellent record in protecting environment. The institution of the awards is a part of the Vision 2023 programme to encourage pollution control works for creating a pollution-free Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Environment and Forest Department, Chairman Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and other high officials participated. ❖

Financial allocation of Rs.10 crores to Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies to benefit 40,000 Adi dravidar and Tribal communities

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has been taking several measures to improve the standard of living of the Adi dravidar and Tribal Communities.

As one such measure, the Government is extending interest free share capital loan so as to enable the Adi dravidar and Tribal Community people to get credit from the primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies. These interest free loans enhance the credit worthiness of the Adi dravidar and Tribal Community members of these societies. The Government is disbursing Rs. 20 lakhs every year to these credit societies as interest free loan for 8000 Adi dravidar and Tribal Community members at the rate of Rs. 250/- per head. This helps them to get credit upto Rs. 5000/- as crop loan on medium term loan.

Taking into account, the present share capital amount is insufficient to get large loans, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered that the share capital amount be increased from Rs. 250 to Rs. 2500/- and they be given as Government grants. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also sanctioned Rs. 10 crores so as to benefit 40,000 Adi dravidar and Tribal Community members of the credit societies. Through this directive, the Adi dravidar and Tribal Community members can get credit upto Rs. 50,000/-.

The above measure will greatly benefit farmers belonging to Adi dravidar and Tribal Communities. ■

Government's action to confiscate the properties of Emu farm establishments and return depositors investments

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa on 17.08.2012 (English Translation)

Some Emu farm establishments have been collecting by way of deposits several lakhs of Rupees for the last few years in the districts of Erode and Coimbatore from more than 36,000 people by stating that investment in Emu farms will fetch high returns. The investors will be given Emu chicks commensurate to their investment and they have to rear the chicks in their farms. A specified amount will be given for rearing the chicks. At the expiry of the specified period, the deposits will be returned. As for those who do not have the space to rear the Emu chicks, some private establishments have been implementing a scheme of rearing the chicks by themselves, paying a fixed amount to the investors every month and returning the deposit at the expiry of the specified period.

These firms failed to honour their monthly commitments to the investors from the month of August. The police have received 16 complaints against some Emu farm establishments in this connection. Action was taken on these complaints and 33 persons were listed as accused. Four accused were arrested and remanded to judicial custody for non-payment of dues to investors. Other accused have absconded.

In these circumstances, a review meeting, presided over by me, was held today (17.8.2012) for taking speedy action against Emu Farm Establishments that have cheated the investors. The Chief Secretary, the Principal Secretary, Home Department, Secretary Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department and other high officials participated.

Following this, I ordered the police to take steps for the speedy arrest of those who have absconded.

I also directed the police to confiscate, through court proceedings, the properties of the Emu Firms that failed to pay the depositors and to take steps for returning, to the depositors, their invested money.

Since the Emu farm owners have absconded, and the employees deserted the farms, the rearing of the Emu hens had slackened. As a result a situation developed when Emu hens were about to perish. I directed the Animal Husbandry Department to take on the task of feeding and protecting these hens.

Moreover, veterinary doctors from the Namakkal Veterinary Medical College and from the Animal Husbandry Department visited these farms and arranged necessary medical facilities for these hens. Since it will take 3 more months for the Emu chicks to attain their full growth, I have sanctioned funds to the Animal Husbandry Department, needed for the maintenance of these chicks. After the chicks attained their full growth, steps would be taken to sell them. The proceeds would be adjusted against their feed cost and the balance amount distributed to the depositors.

TAMIL ARASU

Publication of Information & Public Relations Department

SUBSCRIBE TAMIL ARASU AND BENEFIT

TAMIL ARASU (TAMIL) MONTHLY

Single copy: Rs. 20/-
Annual Subscription: Rs. 240/-
Life Subscription: Rs. 2,000/- (for 10 years)

TAMIL ARASU (ENGLISH) MONTHLY

Single copy: Rs. 20/-
Annual Subscription: Rs. 240/-
Life Subscription: Rs. 2,400/- (for 10 years)

The Subscription amount can be sent by way of Demand Draft or Money Order drawn in favour of **THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR** (Publications) and sent to Tamil Arasu Office, (Stationary and Printing Commissionerate Office Premises) No. 110, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 002.

The Subscribers are requested to mention their names and postal address with pincode for effective delivery of Tamil Arasu magazines by post.

NEWS IN PICTURES

The Committee referred to under Section 15(3) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, met on 31.8.2012 to recommend names for appointment as State Information Commissioners. The Chairperson of the Committee, the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** chaired the meeting. Hon'ble Minister for Finance Thiru. O. Panneerselvam participated in the meeting.

His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu **Dr. K. Rosaiah,** in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa,** administered the oath of office to Thiru. P. Thamilselvan, M.A., B.L., Thiru. Christopher Nelson, I.P.S., (Retd.), Dr. V. Saroja, M.D.,D.G.O., Tmt. B. Neelambikai, M.A., B.L., and Thiru. S.F. Akbar, B.Sc., B.L., as State Information Commissioners in the Tamil Nadu Information Commission, at Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 5.9.2012.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** greeted the Hon’ble Prime Minister **Dr. Manmohan Singh** at Chennai airport on his transit visit from Sriharikota to New Delhi on 9.9.2012. His Excellency the Governor **Dr. K. Rosaiah** was present.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa** chaired a meeting on safety of school going children at the Secretariat, Chennai on 23.8.2012. Hon’ble Minister for Finance Thiru. O. Panneerselvam, Hon’ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise Thiru. Natham R. Viswanathan, Hon’ble Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development Thiru. K.P. Munusamy, Hon’ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development Thiru. R. Vaithilingam, Hon’ble Minister for School Education and Sports & Youth Welfare Thiru. N.R. Sivapathy, the Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Home, Prohibition and Excise Department, Principal Secretary, School Education Department, Secretary, Law Department and Government additional Advocate General were present at the meeting.

Orders to upgrade 256 Libraries

Libraries are knowledge storehouses. They are a great help to achieve perfection in education.

Perarignar Anna used to say that one would become an awakened person only when each house had a reading room. Where reading habit spreads, that Country will be considered as one with a great awareness. With a view to still upgrade libraries that are held in such a high reputation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa has ordered that 96 rural libraries be promoted as branch libraries and 96 Librarian posts in grade III be created in the pay scale of Rs. 5,200-20,000/- + grade pay of Rs. 2,000/-, for manning these upgraded libraries.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also ordered the upgradation of 160 part-time libraries into rural libraries and the creation of 160 librarians to man them in the pay scale of Rs. 2500-5000 + grade pay of Rs. 500/-.

These steps of the Government will not only be of a great help to the general public and students but will pave way for enhancing their knowledge.

New Building with all infrastructural facilities for ex-servicemen

Ex-servicemen Centres have been set up in all districts to protect the interests of ex-servicemen, who, while in service had dedicated their all in the defence of the country.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa who is very much interested in the welfare of the ex-servicemen, has directed the demolition of the severely damaged Ex-servicemen Centre at Vellore and construction of a new building with all infrastructural facilities for them. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has sanctioned Rs. 2,19,65,750/- for this new building.

Tamil Arasu

R.N.I. No 21446/70 Regn.No. TN/ARD/48/12-14
& WPP No.TN/PMG (CCR) 518/12/14

The Hon'ble Chief Minister **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**
inaugurated the scheme of providing food throughout the day to the devotees,
at Srirangam Arulmigu Aranganathaswamy Temple, Tiruchirapalli district, on 13.9.2012